

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3921.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1902.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

## CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

### ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN,

ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.  
Prof. H. S. HALL-SHAW, LL.D. F.R.S., will on SATURDAY NEXT (December 27), at 3 o'clock, begin a COURSE OF SIX EXPERIMENTAL LECTURES (adapted to a Juvenile Auditor) on "Locomotion: on the Earth: through the Water: in the Air." Subscription for (Non-Members) to this Course, One Guinea (Children under Sixteen, Half-a-Guinea); to all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas. Tickets may be obtained at the Institution.

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AN EXAMINATION IN SECTION 1 (Bibliography and Literary History) and SECTION 3 (Library Management) of the EXAMINATION SYLLABUS will be held on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, January 28 and 29, 1903, at Centres to suit the convenience of Candidates.

Intending Candidates must send in their names to the undersigned, from whom full particulars may be obtained, before SATURDAY, January 17, 1903.  
The NEXT EXAMINATION, IN SECTION 2, will be held in MAY, 1903. HENRY D. ROBERTS, Hon. Sec. Education Committee, 413, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.

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LITERATURE

*Edward Bowen: a Memoir.* By the Rev. the Hon. W. E. Bowen. (Longmans & Co.)

WHEN, in the spring of last year, the telegraph brought from France the news that Edward Bowen was dead it must have seemed to many of his friends like the death of vitality itself. That wonderful youthfulness of both mind and body, almost unabated on the threshold of old age, seemed to promise a longevity similar to that of his parents. But with him, as with his more conspicuous, but not more gifted brother, the life wore out the machine that it drove before its time.

An assistant-master at a great public school holds a curious position in regard to personal fame. To the public he is absolutely unknown. If he has been a "Blue" an exceptionally well-informed journalist here and there may keep him in view for a year or two. As a rule, he walks the streets unknown and undistinguished. Yet no man has so large an acquaintance among those whom the same public does know, and in whose honour it throws up whatever garment corresponds to Casca's nightcaps; nor, very possibly, has any man done more to qualify them for the positions in which they have earned that honour. It is, as we know, not the whetstone's lot to cut, but the steel would make a poor job without it.

It is, therefore, a good thing that when one who has discharged the whetstone's office with good effect for many years departs from this world, some attempt should be made to bring him and his work to the knowledge of people who perhaps little realize the immense importance of the part played in our social organism by that comparatively obscure and, at least until recent years, somewhat despised member of it, the usher. Any one whose school recollections date back fifty years, and who has seen something of the internal life of a great school at the present day,

must have noticed the change that has come over the mutual relations of boys and masters. In the fifties the "natural enemy" view of those relations still flourished. Those were the days of the famous "character" beginning "This disgusting boy"; and even where things did not go so far as this, there was a mutual shyness difficult to distinguish from mutual distrust. The pleasant interchange of banter which now goes on at suitable times between a popular tutor and his pupils, and in which the master can take his part with no loss of his boys' respect, was then unknown. It would have seemed impertinence on the part of the boy, while the master who allowed it would have been set down by the boys as "mad." A very few labels sufficed to classify the characters and temperaments of boys for the purposes of their preceptors. That the moral and mental differences among boys were at least as marked as the facial, that in fact every boy was a "species" by himself, was a proposition that a few might have assented to, but which influenced practice not at all. Of course this method had its advantages. It came nearer to the conditions of the adult world, where only the phenomenal is of much account, and a well-dressed shop-front is a better asset than goods stored away out of sight; it probably had a bracing effect on those who were already fairly robust, but, on the other hand, a good many sank in the water into which they had been thrown to teach them to swim. Nowadays there is usually a friendly eye to mark the first faltering and a hand to throw the life-belt.

Edward Bowen's scholastic career began in a school which, founded under the old system at a time when that was showing signs of decrepitude, and without the support of a great tradition, had been saved from extinction by the genius of a great man, now, it is to be feared, hardly remembered, the late Bishop Cotton, who had just handed it on to the scholar and trainer of scholars, Dr. Bradley. When Bowen went to Marlborough, where he remained only a few weeks, he found attempts already being made in the direction of the more modern relations to which we have referred between masters and boys. A reconstructed school, of course, offered a good field for experiments, and Bowen was at once struck by the state of things that prevailed. "The masters associating together," he wrote to a friend,

"and mixing so much with the boys, is first-rate. There is something to my taste quite delightful in having a fellow in to tea in the evening and setting him an imposition the first thing next morning; or keeping him in the first part of the afternoon, and playing cricket with him the second."

Harrow, whither Bowen almost immediately removed, and to which he devoted the forty-two years of life that remained to him, was in a somewhat different position. There, too, a school had been raised from what looked like impending dissolution, and restored to vigorous health; but decadence had not suppressed—it had probably fortified—the tradition of centuries.

"The masters were an elder and consequently a more conservative set of men; they did not as a rule permit, much less encourage, that intimacy between masters and pupils which is now

a recognized feature in public-school life.....So far did this opposition go, that Edward Bowen was remonstrated with on one occasion by a senior colleague for walking to his house in conversation with two or three boys."

Few, if any, men have done as much as Bowen to bring about the pleasanter relations which now exist, and the effect of which has been, as one cannot but believe, to produce the distinct advance in civilization perceptible in the modern public-school boy as compared with his predecessor of forty or fifty years back.

Closely connected with this is the question of the participation of masters in the boys' games. Here again every one who is in a position to compare the two epochs will at once recognize the extent of the change that has taken place; and here, too, Bowen was a pioneer. Whether he brought with him from Marlborough the habit of sharing in the games, or whether, as seems more probable, he only adopted it when his standing at Harrow rendered him independent of criticism, does not appear from the book. Five-and-twenty years after his appointment we find him reading to the society of "United Ushers" a paper on the general subject of games as an ingredient of education, in which his views on this point are expressed. After dealing with the inquiry as to the degree to which it is desirable that authority should interfere with the boys' own regulations or customs in regard to the games, he proceeds:—

"How far may masters go with advantage into the region that lies midway between authority and fellowship? Some headmasters almost directly organize games; some assistant masters teach very elaborately the art of good play; a great many assistant masters join in games if nothing else. I fear that nothing but commonplaces modified by experience will answer the question. Masters should not teach boys to do what they can do for themselves.....If, then, we say that you mustn't be unnecessary, you mustn't be officious, you mustn't vulgarize yourself into a professional coach, you mustn't seem ostentatiously unintellectual—outside of these limitations you will often do good by giving your help.....As to mere joining in the games, do so on conditions of the utmost strictness: (1) That the boys like your doing so; (2) That you are perfectly sure of keeping your temper.....One incidental question: If we play in school games and hear boys use words and phrases which—well, which are compatible with faint praise, but not restricted to it, what are we to do?.....In the middle of a game we hear some young St. Athanasius making a characteristic remark. Shall we go away from the game as if shocked, which is ridiculous hypocrisy; or punish him, which is contrary to the theory on which we play, namely that temporarily and for the purpose of the game we partly divest ourselves of our cap and gown; or shall we pretend not to hear it, which is a suggestion of the devil? I should say, behave exactly as you would wish one of the bigger boys to behave. If it is not a special moment of excitement, abuse the boy openly, a little angrily, without any shyness.....If the offence was almost excusable, even still abuse him, but don't exaggerate; you are not a prig or a Puritan. If the moment isn't adapted for moral exhortation, put it off till it is, and then take him to task, and if he is a big boy, take him to a good deal of task."

We have quoted the last passage at some length, because it is a good specimen of the quaint humour characteristic of Bowen. Like all the more thoughtful Cambridge



men of his generation, he was something of an εἰρων, and liked to give a jocose or burlesque setting to the expression of serious opinions and deep emotions. There is abundance of evidence in this book that he both thought and felt very deeply, and the same can easily be detected in the delightful verses which he poured out year after year for the benefit of Harrow and the world. His humour was no respecter of persons. He was as ready to "chaff" a royal commission as a meeting of the "United Ushers." "I have tried hard to invent statistics, and have really failed," he said, when asked to give some bearing on the numbers of secondary teachers in the country, and the desirability of requiring a preliminary course of training: a notion to which he was opposed, as he was to certain other schemes which have of late found favour among educational experts. It may be that the conservatism which was innate in him, as in many if not most of the staunchest political Radicals, came more to the surface as he grew older; but it is clear that on several points he differed as to methods from those with whose general aims he was most in sympathy.

While giving every credit to Mr. Bowen for the piety with which he has ensured the preservation of the memory of a man who assuredly ought not to be forgotten when those who knew him in the flesh have followed him hence, we think that in some points he overrates the powers of his relative, and cannot wholly congratulate him on the arrangement of the book. Many of the papers contained in an appendix, which is more than a third of the volume in bulk, and more than half in matter, were well worth preserving. We may specially call attention to a lecture on the Commune of Paris, delivered to the Harrow Liberal Club in 1887, as containing what is, perhaps, the only trustworthy account or rational estimate in English of the events which appalled Europe in 1871. Bowen was himself in Paris for some weeks during the rule of the Commune. But if these papers were to be given in this form, was it necessary to quote so copiously from them in the body of the book? Here one especially sees the evils of sending out a book of this kind without an index. If that useful complement had been supplied one would fancy that its preparation might have drawn the author's attention to the needless amount of repetition which he has allowed himself.

We have not left ourselves space to do more than refer to Bowen's delight in and profound knowledge of military history, coupled with a profound detestation of war and the "military spirit." He followed in part the campaigns of 1864 and 1870, and had visited and studied most of the battlefields of Europe. Nor can we do more than refer to his services as virtually the introducer of "Modern Sides" in schools, an institution which with him was by no means intended to supplant a due portion of classical culture. Indeed, we read that "three times the Fifth-Form prize for Latin prose went to representatives of that department, and once the School prize for a Latin epigram." Lastly, his political venture when he contested Hertford against the present Prime Minister was an episode

in a many-sided life which it is interesting now to recall. His nephew is possibly right in thinking that Parliament was not a field in which he could have done his best work. "He would have understood them, but they would not have understood him." So much the worse for them, one may say, but it would have been a waste of a useful life.

*Queen Victoria: a Biography.* By Sidney Lee. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

MR. SIDNEY LEE'S important Life of Queen Victoria bears traces, to some extent, of its origin. As an expansion of his notice in the third supplementary volume of the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' its merits consist rather in accuracy and exhaustiveness of information than in grace of presentment. The study ought not, however, to be undervalued on that account. In the case of so simple a character, the facts, arranged as they are in illuminating sequence, may be safely left to speak for themselves. Pending the production of the authoritative biography written by royal command, we cannot conceive, indeed, that a more satisfactory account of the Queen's unselfish labours can possibly be produced. Even when that work does appear it will be found, we suspect, to make little material addition to our knowledge of the period covered by Sir Theodore Martin's 'Life of the Prince Consort,' though the later years must have many historical secrets to yield up. Mr. Lee has had access to sources of information about them which he believes—and with evident justice—to be of first-class value. But he is obliged, of course, to withhold names; and, in any case, the time has not yet come when more than the merest hints can be set down of the Queen's relations with Gladstone and Lord Salisbury, or even with Beaconsfield.

Due discretion is displayed in these pages with regard to the Queen's girlhood. Sir John Conroy and his influence over the Duchess of Kent were undoubtedly causes of offence, and though William IV. behaved towards the Duchess with angry want of dignity, the rights of the quarrel were mostly on his side. An article in the *Edinburgh Review* containing extracts from the unpublished reminiscences of John Cam Hobhouse, Lord Broughton, might have been consulted, however, for the opening of the reign, since it conveys a lively impression of a hardened politician's first audience with the inexperienced sovereign. Mr. Lee, again, leans rather too much to the Court in his account of the Queen's differences of opinion with her aversion, Palmerston. That minister's defence of his conduct on the occasion of the *coup d'état* was not exactly "feeble." There was much force, rather, in his argument that his conversation with Walewski was "unofficial." The distinction is understood in diplomacy, and Lord John Russell never attempted to deny that he, Lord Lansdowne, and Sir Charles Wood, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had in the same way expressed their approval of the French counter-revolution. Gladstone pointed out in his 'Gleanings,' besides, that the arrangement by which the Foreign Secretary agreed to allow the dispatches submitted for the Queen's

approval to pass through the hands of the Prime Minister could never have lasted, since it would have reduced him from a confidential servant of the Crown to a mere clerk. The questions at issue were many and intricate, in fact, and a strong suspicion existed that Baron Stockmar was, in addition, making mischief behind the scenes. Palmerston may have erred in manner, but his constitutional position was strong, and, as Mr. Lee rightly says, the substantive victory lay with him. Later on we find Kinglake's view adopted, that Palmerston resigned his office under Lord Aberdeen because he wished more resolute steps to be taken to meet Russian pretensions. But the documents quoted in the *Quarterly Review* of April, 1877, leave little room for doubt that reform was the real, as well as the ostensible, reason for the Home Secretary's temporary withdrawal. Mr. Lee seems to have missed that instructive article.

Queen Victoria's intense distrust of Gladstone the statesman, and her failure to appreciate Gladstone the man, have long since become public property. But it will be news to many that in 1871 she requested her ministers to make some statement explanatory of her seclusion and that they refused. One wonders why. Again, we are told that in her private correspondence during the Midlothian campaign she invariably described Gladstone's denunciations of her favourite minister as shameful or disgraceful. She appears less as a woman and more as a queen in her efforts to effect a compromise between the Lords and the Commons on the Franchise and Redistribution quarrel of 1884. "Her influence with the Duke of Richmond and leading Conservatives in the Peers" removed, it seems, what might have been a strong obstacle to its accomplishment. Even to the last she would allow no more credit to Gladstone than that "he was always most considerate to me and my family." Mr. Lee's statement that she chose Lord Rosebery to succeed as Liberal Prime Minister "by her own authority and without seeking any advice" was received with some scepticism when it first appeared in the 'Dictionary,' but we have good reasons for believing it to be perfectly correct. He reveals, too, her high spirit during the early disasters of the South African war; she declared that she would suffer no depression in her house because "all would come right." Yet the prolongation of that struggle materially hastened her end, and, though Mr. Lee does not lay much stress upon the point, it is believed that the death of her soldier-grandson, Prince Christian Victor, formed one of the heaviest of her many trials.

Mr. Lee decides that Queen Victoria's reign resulted in an increase of royal influence and a decay of royal power. He instances the abolition of the royal control over the army and of the prerogative of mercy. Yet the Queen gained her own way far more successfully than William IV., who was reduced, during the later years of his occupancy of the throne, to impotent complaints against a foreign and domestic policy which he disliked intensely. If we compare Queen Victoria's handling of the Danish question with his querulous opposition to Palmerston's maintenance of the English Legion in Spain, the conclusion must be



that she had strengthened, not diminished, the authority bequeathed by her predecessor. Again, it seems rather far-fetched to assert that the Sovereign's travels abroad seemed to prove that her control over the Government was in effect less constant and essential than of old. The thinking public understood perfectly well that she was in constant communication with her ministers by means of dispatches and the telegraph. These points are, however, largely matters of opinion, and we have no desire to advance them in disparagement of Mr. Lee's admirable monograph, which will be widely appreciated.

*In Pursuit of the "Mad" Mullah.* By Capt. Malcolm McNeill, D.S.O. With a Chapter by Lieut. A. C. H. Dixon. (Pearson.)

THIS brief but interesting account of service and sport in the Somali Protectorate is fortunate in its appearance now when public interest is aroused in affairs in that quarter, and men are inquiring how it happens that with the experience we were acquiring in South Africa of the effects of inadequate preparation, similar mistakes should be made in the North. The explanation, such as it is, may partly be gathered from these pages, which were written under canvas, and even when actually on a march. It does not seem satisfactory; but at the same time one must not forget that when activity was most desirable our energies were employed elsewhere, and that may excuse to some extent the want of order which has throughout been apparent. But the origin of the trouble is deeper and more remote than the inadequacy of the steps taken when it could no longer be ignored.

The salient facts seem to be that in the years between 1884 and 1893 Capt. (as he then was) H. G. C. Swayne, R.E., who was professionally employed exploring in Somaliland, was able to report that though there was intermittent fighting in the interior, the Somalis had no quarrel with the English, whom they respected as their natural protectors, mainly against Abyssinian aggression, which commenced soon after their capture of Harrar in 1887. The Abyssinians imported breechloading small arms, whilst the Somalis were not allowed to do so from their own coast, which is administered by us; consequently, they looked to us for aid and trusted us implicitly.

Instead of helping these people we handed over in 1897 a large part of their country to the Abyssinians, a step which surely required strong reasons to justify it, and next year the control of the Protectorate was made over from the Indian Government to the Foreign Office. A year after this transfer (*i.e.*, in 1899) Mullah Muhammad Abdullah appeared on the scene. Like most similar leaders, he acquired a reputation for sanctity by performing the *hajj*, or pilgrimage to Mecca, and thereby acquiring the title *Hajj*, by which he is commonly addressed.

In March, 1900, he attacked the Abyssinians, who defeated him with heavy loss, but he did not lose prestige because his men fought bravely, and he ascribed failure to the punishment of Heaven for non-compliance with his religious instruction. He

continued to collect arms and ammunition, and, soon becoming stronger than ever, he dominated the southern portion of our Protectorate. His raids led to representations to Government, and sanction was accorded towards the end of 1900 for raising a Somali levy. Accordingly, arrangements were made at Berbera for the organization of the Somaliland Field Force; but, unfortunately, another expedition for service in Jubaland was then being fitted out; confusion resulted, and stores intended for Berbera on the Gulf of Aden were delivered at Kismayu on the Indian Ocean. Still, difficulties were surmounted and the levy of "1,500 raw Somalis (none of whom had the slightest idea of discipline)" was raised. Endeavours were made to drill them and teach them the use of a rifle; but this work was delayed for want of officers and instructors, whilst the arrangements for medical attendance seem to have been specially defective. Nevertheless, the force which did not exist on January 1st set forth on May 22nd, 1901, to attack the Mullah. That it was possible to do so at all is creditable to the officers on the spot, but that there was reasonable prospect of success might well have been doubted. Still, fortune favoured them, a large number of camels were captured, and Col. Swayne, brother of the Royal Engineer before mentioned, who commanded the force, decided to divide his men into two parties: the first and stronger as a flying column with light transport, the other and weaker being left in charge of the stores, reserve ammunition, and food of the whole force, together with about 3,500 camels and other animals.

Naturally the Mullah preferred to attack the smaller party which was "sitting over the bait," and he did so twice with great determination, but was repulsed with loss, mainly owing to the excellent dispositions made by Capt. McNeill, who commanded the defence. The Mullah's men were thoroughly disorganized, and in their flight were followed by Col. Swayne's force, which killed many and nearly captured the Mullah, who just escaped into Italian territory. Finding that he was not pursued further, he returned again to the Protectorate, when another attempt to capture him was made on July 17th; he again escaped, but his followers suffered severely, and considerable booty was taken. This last defeat so shook the Mullah's people that many of them returned next day to Firdiddin to give up their arms, but found that our troops had departed. For at this juncture orders, so explicit as to leave no option, arrived

"from the Foreign Office that operations in the interior against the Mullah were to cease, and that the Expedition was to return.....It was very unlucky for us all, and very hard luck on Colonel Swayne, that he had to march his force back, when by staying a little longer so much more might have been accomplished."

Unfortunate events which have since occurred lend great weight to these remarks; but, on the other hand, till the circumstances are better known, including the orders referred to and the reasons for their issue, judgment must be deferred.

The following remarks, bearing as they do on the fitness of Somalis for fighting, are worthy of consideration. They show careful observation and thought:—

"To sum up his good points—the Somali is an excellent servant on a shooting trip, and, on the whole, a good transport man. As a soldier he is a splendid marcher, requiring but little transport and capable of enduring great fatigue. He is plucky, cheerful, and easily led by any Sahib to whom he takes a liking. He is respectful also, and obedient to the white man. He is good-tempered, easily amused and kept in good humour.....The Somali's chief faults are his inordinate vanity, his grasping greed, and his terrible excitability.....They seem on occasions to go quite off their heads, and to lose their reason for the time being.....At Firdiddin, for instance, many of our men were simply mad with excitement, some firing their rifles in the air, and it was quite impossible to get others to adjust their sights, as they were far too demented to listen to any orders once they got under fire. ....In my opinion this excitability is so deeply rooted in the Somali's nature as to be ineradicable, and it is so great as to preclude the likelihood of his soon being able to take his stand alongside regular troops. In conclusion I will only say that I would be very sorry to be in a really tight place with Somalis only," &c.

The meaning of all this is that possibly with continued discipline, and with the example of a sterner race, they may become trustworthy soldiers; but that as mounted irregulars they are specially qualified for scouting, raiding, and harassing an enemy.

The portion of the book devoted to sport is of infinitely less concern and may be briefly passed over. Capt. McNeill managed to combine a good deal of shooting with more serious pursuits, and he has given in an appendix the laws or regulations for the preservation of game in Somaliland. They seem appropriate, and will no doubt be amended as experience may dictate; of their necessity there is no question, but their administration and enforcement may not be easy. We are glad to hear that the publishers are including in later copies of the book a large map of the region, a convenience which ought to have been provided in the first instance.

*The Sailing of the Long-Ships, and other Poems.*

By Henry Newbolt. (Murray.)

*The Triumph of Love.* By Edmond Holmes. (Lane.)

MR. NEWBOLT has had the advantage over other poets of his calibre of chiming in to the moment with the inarticulate feelings and ideals of a people greatly moved. There is some danger lest, in the reaction from unstinted praise, he may fail to receive his just due. 'The Sailing of the Long-Ships,' although it has less of the popular ballad element, by no means displays a falling off in the essentials of poetry from 'The Island Race.' There is still much that is minor verse, and not far above the average of such things. All the best pieces, some half-dozen in number, are directly inspired by the incidents and emotions of the late war. It would seem as if Mr. Newbolt, unlike the poets of the wider creative imagination, required the sting of an immediate stimulus to stir him to effective song, and that, although he does sometimes write in the absence of such a stimulus, he is not then equal to more than the average achievement of many lesser voices of the present day. At any rate, these half-dozen poems are very fine indeed—dignified, manly, and, above all, obviously sincere. If much of recent

verse, perhaps of verse at all times, is a game, or a pose, this at least is meant. Mr. Newbolt exhibits the best of the very mixed impulses that go to make up modern imperialism. The country and the sword are of his cult; but there is room in his soul for humility as well as triumph, for pity as well as resolve, and the responsibilities of greatness are no less real to him than its prizes. It is an imperialism which even those who dislike some of its ideals may well appreciate and respect. Here are lines which struck the imagination when they first appeared, and which have all the chivalry which is the dearest thing in life to Mr. Newbolt:—

THE VOLUNTEER.

"He leapt to arms unbidden,  
Unneeded, over-bold;  
His face by earth is hidden,  
His heart in earth is cold.  
"Curse on the reckless daring  
That could not wait the call,  
The proud fantastic bearing  
That would be first to fall!"  
O tears of human passion,  
Blur not the image true;  
This was no folly's fashion,  
This was the man we knew.

In 'The Schoolfellow,' 'The School at War,' and 'Commemoration' Mr. Newbolt returns to one of his happiest themes. School as a prophecy of life; life as a putting into practice the lessons of devotion and discipline and comradeship learnt at school: these are notions that lie at the heart of his simple and manly ethics. "Play up! play up! and play the game!" was the memorable burden of one of his earlier poems, and it finds an echo in the last verse of 'The School at War':—

"O Captains unforgot," they cried,  
"Come you again or come no more,  
Across the world you keep the pride,  
Across the world we mark the score."

Yet another old subject, that of Drake, is touched again in 'Waggon Hill.' Both 'Peace' and 'On Spion Kop' have the rather rare qualities of the successful quatrain. There is pathos in 'The Only Son,' and a striking touch of symbolism, of a vein rather new in Mr. Newbolt's work, in 'The King of England.' Here is the opening stanza:—

In that eclipse of noon when joy was hushed  
Like the bird's song beneath unnatural night,  
And Terror's footfall in the darkness crushed  
The rose imperial of our delight,  
Then, even then, though no man cried "He comes,"  
And no man turned to greet him passing there,  
With phantom heralds challenging renown  
And silent-throbbing drums  
I saw the King of England, hale and fair,  
Ride out with a great train through London town.

It is to be hoped that the ending of war will not mean the ending of song for Mr. Newbolt, and that even in peace his generous Muse will yet find some deeds of devotion and strenuous ardour to celebrate.

The sonnet is not in the mode just now. But it will doubtless always have its lovers, and amongst living writers there are few who have more successfully grappled with this difficult art than Mr. Edmond Holmes. 'The Triumph of Love,' like its predecessor 'The Silence of Love,' shows a command both of stately rhythm and of sustained elevation of thought. Mr. Holmes's verse moves on ample and easy wing. He has wisely adopted the

Shakespearean rather than the Petrarchan variety of the sonnet as his model, and the harmonious progress of the three quatrains towards the exaltation of the final couplet affords the necessary lyrical balance to the highly intellectual character of his subject-matter. Such an equipoise of thought and emotion, of the lyrical and the elegiac elements of song, is the express glory of the sonnet, in the greatest examples of which the singing heart and the subtle brain have spoken together. Thus Mr. Holmes is in the right tradition. Throughout he achieves, so far as workmanship is concerned, a high level; and unity is given to his verse by the fact that, with whatever variety of treatment, it always circles about a single theme. This is, of course, love. Mr. Holmes is, in the best sense, an amorist. In love he finds the meaning of life, the key to all mysteries, the charm against fate, the passage to eternity. The secret ways of love, the rhythmical laws of its "refluent wave," he is never tired of exploring. And, like many idealists, he is in love with the renunciation of love, even more than with its fruition:—

The more I love thee, my Beloved! the more  
I long to love thee without stint or stay,—  
To love and still to love,—to pour and pour  
Fresh floods of love in pulsing waves away.  
This is my wish, my prayer. I ask for nought  
But just to love. No dream of love's return  
Troubles my happiness: no sordid thought  
Of what love spends, of what love hopes to earn.  
Oh, do not love me. Sorrow, loss and pain,  
Despair and ruin, for my love's dear sake,  
I could endure; but to be loved again—  
I dare not think of it; my heart would break.  
Oh, do not love me: spare me: leave me free  
To dream of one thing only—love of thee.

To many minds this would, of course, appear a paradox. And, indeed, there would be a good deal of paradox in Mr. Holmes's spiritual attitude, did not the willingness to renounce carry with it, although the connexion is mystical rather than logical, the undefeated consciousness of future triumph.

"Even to the edge of doom love bears it out,"  
So sung of old love's poet. Ay—and then?—  
Will love recoil, trembling with fear and doubt,  
From any doom that waits for mortal men?  
"Even to the edge of doom"—the poet sings.  
So far—no further? Will the depths of doom  
Engulf poor love, or will his seraph wings  
Span that abyss of life-encircling gloom?  
"Even to the edge of doom"—and thence away  
Beyond all limits love will sing and soar,  
Till far beneath his feet he sees the day  
Dawn o'er the world and dawn for evermore,—  
And learns at last that doom's abyss of night  
Is but the shadow flung from God's own light.

The weakness of Mr. Holmes's poetry is in a certain colourlessness and, but for the melody of its rhythm, lack of sensuous attraction. This largely depends upon the nature of his diction, which is generally abstract rather than concrete and individual. Often he falls upon "common forms" of speech, which give a conventional and artificial air to the expression of feeling which is in reality genuine and personal enough. His imagery is of the vaguest—from a bird, a flower, a tree. He rarely condescends to name the species. And when, as in the following sonnet, he does, the gain in vividness, which entails no loss in any of his accustomed qualities, would certainly seem to justify the experiment:—

Like as the thrush in winter, when the skies  
Are drear and dark and all the woods are bare,  
Sings undismayed, till from his melodies  
Odours of spring float through the frozen air;—  
So in my heart, when sorrow's icy breath  
Is bleak and bitter and its frost is strong,  
Leaps up, defiant of despair and death,  
A sunlit fountain of triumphant song.  
Sing on, sweet singer, till the violets come  
And south winds blow: sing on, prophetic bird!  
Oh, if my lips, which are for ever dumb,  
Could sing to men what my sad heart has heard,—  
Life's darkest hour with songs of joy would ring;  
Life's blackest frost would blossom into spring.

*The Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe.*  
"Arnheim Edition." Vols. I.-V. (Putnam's Sons.)

*The Complete Writings of Walt Whitman.*  
"Camden Edition." Vols. I.-V. (Same publishers.)

WHEN we recently reviewed a history of American literature we were unable to agree with many of the estimates offered of eminent men of letters overseas. We stated, however, that Poe and Whitman were generally recognized in this country as the writers of original genius whom the United States have produced, and indicated some reasons, not far to seek, why Poe had not been placed in his proper position. Poe attacked the dignity of Boston; he was at loggerheads with Longfellow and Lowell, even with the geniality of Holmes. The circumstances of his life gave his enemies, it must be admitted, an unfortunate hold over him, but we can afford to forget the untender autobiographic mercies of Griswold, while we can remember that an English critic, Mr. J. H. Ingram, was the man to rehabilitate, before the present generation of writers came to the front, a great, if misguided writer. Now a Poe cult is in full swing which will have a difficulty in adorning all the works of the master with superlatives, but with this we are hardly concerned, since the delight of discovery which forms a chief feature of these manifestations can hardly be ours at this date. It is some years since we pointed out that Poe's criticisms in the main, in spite of some facetiousness, which must amaze, and could not possibly amuse, are just and discriminating; that with all his bitterness towards contemporaries he was far before his time in praising Hawthorne; and that much of his scientific rhapsody anticipated the work of masters of discovery, like Lord Kelvin.

Suffice it to say that Poe and Whitman (though there are reservations to be made in the latter case) deserve the splendid form in which they are here presented, a form on which we may offer the house of Putnam, well known on both sides of the Atlantic, our hearty congratulations. We have not been always satisfied with *éditions de luxe* from overseas. We have had in such elaborate issues heavily loaded paper which emitted a distinct chemical odour, pages insecurely bound, and vagaries of type which were more useful than beautiful—in fact, distressing to the book-lover who wants to see his classic a thing of beauty as well as a definitive edition. Here all is as it should be for the fortunate few who can secure one of these limited sets. The binding in each case is in a tasteful grey and white, backed with gold, which both look (we write with



similar volumes on the shelf before us) and wear well. The page is easy to read and so disposed as to allow of ample margins. The Greek which the ambitious storyteller quoted, and occasionally, we fancy, but ill understood, is properly accented, which may seem a trifle, but is a trifle commonly neglected in these degenerate days; and due attention has been paid to minor details of bibliography.

The distinctive feature, however, claimed for the edition of Poe is the series of illustrations by Mr. F. S. Coburn, a Canadian by birth, who has illustrated 'Rip Van Winkle' effectively, and who painted in oil the numerous designs from which the photo-gravures offered are taken. Regarding the great difficulty of illustrating Poe's fantasies, we are able to say that the artist has succeeded in imparting a sense both of mystery and vision to many of his pictures. Metzengerstein on his furious horse, a ghastly scene in 'The Mystery of Marie Rogêt,' the immured horror in 'The Black Cat,' are macabre without any grotesque exaggeration of figure or lighting. On more commonplace occasions Mr. Coburn is less effective, lacking, we think, like his author, the full endowment of humour. But altogether he has done better than his predecessors.

The set of Whitman is prepared under the editorial supervision of his literary executors, who have been able to supply hitherto unpublished material, and is likely to be the final edition for the book-lover for some time to come. Nineteen portraits of Whitman are promised for the entire set, a number of these being very rare, besides several other new illustrations. The frontispiece is a very striking reproduction of the good grey head, all the more characteristic because it is rather unkempt.

It should be added that introductions to each set are provided. Prof. C. F. Richardson, who writes of Poe as "world-author," leans for a literary historian too much on the verdicts of others, and spends time in quotations which might be more profitably devoted to a direct study without reference to other authorities; but he is sound in essentials. Whitman's literary executors have, of course, a high view of his achievement, but they are free from the extravagances we have been led to expect, and write personal notes rather than criticism in their introduction. The volumes, as a whole, may fairly claim to rank among the more important publications of the season, and are the more significant because, as we have hinted, the proper standard of such work has not been always maintained.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Jan van Elsclo.* By Gilbert and Marion Coleridge. (Macmillan & Co.)

WITH Motley for their guide in facts and Dumas in fiction Mr. and Mrs. Coleridge have constructed a very readable story of the stirring days which immediately preceded and followed the rising of the Netherlands against their Spanish ruler. The narrative is of a good brisk kind, shifting from France to the Low Countries, and thence to Spain and back again without loitering, and introducing not only most of the famous historical persons and incidents of

the period, but also a good share of adventure for which no documentary evidence is so far known to exist. The authors have somewhat handicapped themselves by making all their people talk an amazing lingo, apparently modelled on the speech of the comic characters in Shakespeare: a blunder which Dumas never committed. To the best of our recollection, his people, save, perhaps, for an occasional expletive, talk the purest nineteenth-century French. It would have been better to pay more attention to details which really mark the period. Thus Queen Elizabeth would not have used the word "Dutch" to denote that which came from Holland. Nor would canary have been a likely drink for a Hollander at Compiègne in 1559 to have "put a name to," or to have got if he had done so. The introduction of Sainte-Aldegonde as a person of importance some years before he made his appearance in public affairs, at a date, indeed, when he was barely of age, may pass in disciples of the great Alexander; but to confer on him the title of marquis suggests that Dumas has not been kept properly distinct from Disraeli. Perhaps it is hypercritical to point out that the manner in which "the noble Sieur de Montigny" came to his end was not revealed for some centuries after the supposed date of the story. No doubt there were plenty in the Low Countries who formed a pretty shrewd guess. And who was "Sir Robert Cecil" in 1559? It is not much trouble to get these little details right, and the neglect to do so rather detracts from the pleasure of those who are most likely to ask for the book—those, namely, who are interested in the period. There is plenty more good unworked material, by the way, in the next few years. Will not the authors be tempted by it?

*When Spurs were Gold.* By Russell Garnier. (Allen.)

IN this romance, which Mr. Garnier introduces to us as "a suppressed page of English history relating to Henry V.," an English knight is deputed by his royal master to obtain possession of the person of Catherine of France. After innumerable adventures and hairbreadth escapes, in one of which he is compelled to fill the rôle of headman, he is successful. The sinister figure of Jean sans Peur forms a dark background to the story. The plot is skilfully constructed, and the reader's interest is well maintained throughout. A tendency to euphuistic metaphor mars somewhat a style in other respects simple and direct, and some of the characters are allowed to express themselves in language befitting neither their circumstances nor their period. Our enjoyment, moreover, of his book would have been more whole-hearted if Mr. Garnier had been content to adopt a less eccentric system of punctuation.

*The Wooing of Wistaria.* By Onoto Watanna. (Harper & Brothers.)

THIS novel, which begins before and ends during the Restoration period of Japan, must be treated as one of incident. We find a fair amount of adventure, a *harakiri* (self-dispatch), much fighting, treachery (real and apparent), a woman's devotion, and a proper distribution of reward and punishment. The scenery, dialogue, and personages lack

naturalness, and the atmosphere and properties of the story are not sufficiently those of old Japan, but rather what people in these later years of Meiji imagine to have been the characteristics of an anterior time. The main interest of the book perhaps lies in the fact that the author is apparently a Japanese herself, and—by way of proof, we suppose—signs her name in Japanese script. But throughout we find "Choshu" for *Choshu*, and no one in these days would write "Catsu" instead of *Katsu*, not to mention other slight but significant peculiarities, such as "Nishimua," "Nagate," and the like.

*Captain Macklin.* By Richard Harding Davis. (Heinemann.)

STORIES of soldiers of fortune have of late usually been set in that conveniently long period the reign of Louis XIV., so that Mr. Davis might deserve thanks if only because he has put his story into our own times, but he has other claims. He does his fighting and his adventures thoroughly well. Unfettered by any affectation, he succeeds in making these things lifelike, and one rather enjoys the freshness of the modern implements and modes of war as a contrast to the atmosphere of the museum of old armour. It is delightful to read of duty and devotion with no ulterior aims, and there is something fascinating about the character of Laguerre, who finds himself poor and friendless after thirty years of true service to more or less lost causes. Captain Macklin, too, is well represented, with the fervour and the conceit of youth, and also the mixture of despair and confidence with which it is apt to fling itself into an adventure.

*Tracked Down.* By Headon Hill. (Pearson.)

HEADON HILL pursues not unsuccessfully the course which he has marked out for himself in the wake of Gaboriau. It is not, of course, the highest form of literature, and might, one would think, pall on the author after a time. The crime in the first chapter, followed by more or less intelligent pursuit of the perpetrator during the remainder of the story, is not a scheme which one can imagine to be susceptible of many varieties of treatment. Even the little artifices by which it is intended to send the reader off on a false scent have a great family likeness. The prudent reader, of course, does not allow himself to follow a false, or any, scent, but lets the narrative carry him whither it will. It does not do to be too critical, or to scrutinize motives too closely, or one might suggest that the cause alleged for the reticence of the person who first discovered the murder is hardly adequate. The great point is that if he had given the alarm then and there the murderer would not have needed any "tracking down," and the story would have ended before it had begun. That the murderer should have come quite tranquil from the actual perpetration of his crime, and should have shown extreme perturbation after seeing the corpse of his victim a few minutes later, does, we confess, puzzle us somewhat. We must presume that this is one of the little artifices referred to above. The worst fault we have to find with the author in this story is that he is rather too fond



of letting his villains escape the gallows. Not for the first time, we think, does the bold bad man take advantage of the officer's momentary hesitation to fire a pistol into some portion of his own frame, or at any rate contrive in some manner to "cheat the wuddie." Let the author look to it, and see that in his next tale the black flag gets duly hoisted.

*In Chaucer's Maytime.* By Emily Richings. (Fisher Unwin.)

This is evidently a first book, from the way in which good material for a dozen novels is crowded into one, yet not without promise. Regarded from the point of view of fact, there are wonderfully few slips, seeing that the author has evidently no special knowledge of the period. Maundeville is introduced as a real person, a Knight Templar riding with Chaucer laments the approaching destruction of his order, and Chaucer himself quotes one of his non-authentic poems. If the author had known thoroughly all the detail of mediæval life that she produces here, and had taken it for granted instead of insisting on it, her story would have gained immensely in effect. As it is, one fears that those who would gain most from reading it will be repelled by the prominence given to minor points. Writers of historical novels should study Dumas and, above all, Scott.

*The Course of Justice.* By Victor L. Whitechurch. (Isbister & Co.)

IN spite of considerable crudeness this book shows signs of ability. The story is neither very original nor very probable, but it has some interest, and most of the characters are what people nowadays call sympathetic, though only one of them, Canon Brand, appears to have been drawn from life. Strikes, labour movements, and Socialism are the author's principal themes, and his treatment of them suggests some degree of personal experience. The love-interest is of a very conventional kind, and the heroine's curious journalistic experiences cannot be said to convey an impression of reality.

#### MEDIÆVAL LITERATURE.

*King Horn: a Middle-English Romance.* Edited from the Manuscripts by Joseph Hall. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)—*King Horn; Floriz and Planchefleur; The Assumption of Our Lady.* First edited in 1886 by J. Rawson Lumby, and now re-edited from the Manuscripts by G. H. McKnight. (E.E.T.S.)—By a strange coincidence, after being for many years out of print, two editions of 'King Horn' appear almost simultaneously, one issued by the society for which Mr. Lumby many years ago edited it, the other by the Clarendon Press. It is with pleasure that we welcome the development by the latter body of the policy of publishing the monuments of our tongue with a suitable apparatus and notes. Chaucer, 'Piers Plowman,' and Gower are a worthy beginning of a library which we hope to see enlarged in the near future. Both editors have printed the three texts of this version of the story preserved at London, Oxford, and Cambridge, adding, of course, punctuation and numbering. With respect to this last, we prefer, as a minor matter, Dr. McKnight's system of using one line-number for all three MSS., as, owing to accidental omissions, the versions soon become apart. Thus l. 1072 (McKnight) has three

numbers in Mr. Hall's text—1006 (L.), 1037 (O.), and 996 (C.). The reproduction of the texts is extremely well carried out as a whole, though the inevitable slips are made. Thus Dr. McKnight prints, l. 756 (O.), "flecte" where it is certainly *flette*, to rhyme with "hette," and in l. 780 (L.) "fonnde" where it must be *founde*, while in the same passage l. 717 (O.) should have been expanded *ofer*, to rhyme with "douter"; "he" in l. 712 (O.) should have been enclosed in square brackets, as it is not in the text at all, and in l. 662 (O.) "latchen" should be *lachen*.

The history of the development of the King Horn story has been so far worked out that little remained for the editors to do in this direction but to supply a clear and consistent account of the results reached by their predecessors and to declare their opinions on one or two minor points. Neither of them has failed in this duty. Dr. McKnight's account is a little fuller than Mr. Hall's. On the other hand, Mr. Hall's notes are extremely full and interesting discussions of virtually every point that could be raised in the texts, and a whole section of his introduction on the grammar and metre of the poems falls altogether outside Dr. McKnight's plan. As regards the relationship of the texts, Mr. Hall points out some weak places in Wissman's arguments; but his own scheme is hardly more convincing, though he does not, as Wissman did, weaken its force by adding untenable and unnecessary assumptions.

Mr. Hall seems in some of his remarks on the history of the story to have gone too far in the direction of humouring the prevalent Celtic craze:—

"Then all the localities and surroundings are Celtic.....These indications point to the conclusion that the story is originally a British tradition, arising out of some temporary success in which the Cornish, aided by the Irish, checked the westward progress of the English invader. It was annexed by some English poet, and recast to suit the similar position of his countrymen resisting the attacks of the Danes. Finally," &c.

There is not a trace of anything distinctively Celtic in the whole poem: the whole is either distinctively English, or primitive and not distinctively. The more one knows of really Irish legend the more one feels its absolute divergence from story-telling as known to English and French literature.

As to the poem itself, Mr. Hall's summing up is on the whole very just:—

"It is probably the earliest of the English romances, but as a specimen of the purely narrative sort it has great merit. In swift succession of brief and incisive speeches it tells a simple story effectively without distraction of elaborate description or reflective comment. But the characters are very simply conceived, the female element is slight, and love-making is quite subordinate to fighting. Although picturesque and even poetic situations, such as Horn's farewell to his boat, are not wanting, the language is bald and unimaginative. A certain epic simplicity and energetic directness of expression, to which the short verse lends itself, are the main merits of its style."

While we would still remind students and librarians of the imperative duty of continued support to the Early English Text Society, it is with great pleasure that we see other bodies taking their place beside it, building on its foundations, and making the use of its work which its founders hope and desire. Mr. Hall's text is a worthy contribution to the higher study of the Middle English language and literature.

*Collection d'Études et de Documents sur l'Histoire Religieuse et Littéraire du Moyen Âge.*—Vol. III.: *Frère Élie de Cortone: Étude Biographique.* Par le Dr. Ed. Lempp. (Paris, Fischbacher.)—The life of Brother Elias is one of the standing puzzles of the thirteenth century. For a person of his actual importance details concerning him are very few, and those we possess are not all consistent with each other; but when we think of the part he is

supposed to have played in the development of the policy of the Holy See and of the Empire their meagreness becomes amazing. What facts we have testify to his extraordinary capacity. He was in youth a mattress sewer at Assisi and taught children to read. Going thence to Bologna, he became a scribe—*scriptor* can hardly be a notary, a very close corporation, but means more probably a copyist of books. He entered the Franciscan Order early, was made Minister for Tuscany in 1216, and in 1217 went to the East as Provincial. He returned with Francis in 1220, and on the death of Peter of Catani became Minister General, an office he retained till after the death of Francis, when John Parent was elected in his place (1226). In 1232 he was again elected Minister, and ruled the order till 1239. From that time till his death in 1253 he was more or less at enmity with Rome on behalf of Frederick II. Such in brief is our knowledge of Brother Elias, and if we add that he built the Great Church at Assisi, and a few scattered notices of his knowledge and culture, we have all the materials for the foundation of our judgment upon him. We cannot say that we are favourably impressed by Dr. Lempp's study. No man can sit down to write about a subject with an open mind, but he ought to leave the impression on his readers that he has had it. It is an advantage, too, if you can admire the subject of your biography. Now Dr. Lempp seems never to have dreamt that there could be any question whether Elias was the main influence which turned the Franciscan Order from the direction imprinted on it by Francis or no. There is no trace of his asking the question: "What is the ground for this statement?" There is little sign of appreciation of the qualities which made him the intimate of such people of mark as Francis, Gregory IX., St. Clare, and the Emperor Frederick, nor of the respect and admiration one must feel for the builder of San Francesco, the noblest mediæval monument of love for the man and reverence for the saint that Italy holds to-day. Nor can we add that there is any sufficient reason for the publication of the book in the new matter brought forward. Alfó's 'Life' is available in all the great libraries, and Rybka's 'Study' is still to be obtained. We cannot help thinking that it would have been better to wait a little longer, though we must admit that it is useful to have the materials put together. So far as the facts go there seems to be grave reason for doubting whether Elias has not been made a scapegoat for other people's offences. Salimbene's complaints against him are of a very different kind: he did not pay due respect to little great men; he did not properly appreciate the importance of having priests at the head of the order; as time went on he approximated more and more to the heads of the older orders in state and manner; and he gave himself to the study of alchemy. (We disagree, by the way, with Dr. Lempp's very decided denial of Elias's authorship of the short poem attributed to him; it is certainly of his time.) There are only two contemporary writers who speak of Elias, Thomas of Celano and Brother Leo. Thomas of Celano was a writer of ability, but does not seem to have had much independent judgment; while Elias was in power he spoke well of him, when he fell he was silent. Brother Leo, the "little lamb of the good Lord," had some of the less engaging qualities of the sheep, and seems to have been personally jealous of the intimacy of Elias with Francis, and impersonally angry at the supersession of the Portiuncula and the "we who were with him" by another building and organization. The facts of early Franciscan history show that the order in its early want of organization met with strong opposition in the Curia. New rules were forbidden by the Lateran Council soon after its foundation. In a little while the oppo-

sition was so strong that Francis, anxious to go on a missionary expedition, was forbidden to leave Italy. But a change of plan was soon apparent. Educated men came into the order, among them Cardinal Ugolino's nephew, Gregory of Naples. The splendid incapacity for rule of the founder became evident, and Francis was sent to seek martyrdom in the East, while Gregory and other capable administrators were left vicars in his stead. On his return in 1220 Peter of Catani was made Minister, succeeded by Elias, while Francis occupied himself in drawing up rules for the order, to be revised by Cesarino of Spire and Cardinal Ugolino. After the death of the saint Elias's energies seem to have been mainly devoted to the building of San Francesco. His action throughout his life tended rather to preserve the anarchist character which the saint had from the beginning imprinted on the order than to force it into fixed rule and discipline. On the other hand, of course, there is to be considered his unsparing use of power when it was in his hands, an anomaly not wholly inexplicable. To return to our starting-point, the life of Brother Elias has not yet been written, and will not be written till some great sympathetic psychologist can show us the scholar, the student, the politician, and the religious enthusiast bending art, science, learning, and love to the free service of religion and humanity.

## CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

THE legend of Victor Hugo which Mr. and Mrs. Augustine Birrell have translated, and Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. have issued in a tastefully bound volume entitled *The Story of the Bold Pécopin*, has the characteristic qualities of its author, a rich abundance of natural magic and somewhat of a superfluity of descriptive power. This great writer not infrequently makes the grand into the grandiose, and startles where with a greater sense of measure he would have touched us. But this story of the bold hunter whom the ardour of the chase and the embassies of kings carried into distant lands, so that he returned with his youth-giving talisman only to find his young bride a shrivelled beldam, is a good example of Hugo's work. The translators have subjected the legend to a slight condensation, by which we do not think it has suffered. The verse-translation of the song of the dwarf Roulon, which is not ungracefully rendered, is, we are informed, by Mr. Charles Tennyson, scholar of King's College, Cambridge. Of the illustrations by H. R. Millar we like best the last, where the sudden transformation into an old man of a hundred which follows Sir Pécopin's loss of the talisman is well depicted.

*Stories of Early British Heroes* (Dent & Co.) is a nicely got-up volume compiled by C. Gascoigne Hartley and illustrated by Patten Wilson, its contents being drawn from that well of poetry and legend Geoffrey of Monmouth's 'Chronicle,' which is professedly an authentic history of the Celtic kings of Britain. The wanderings and exploits of Brutus, fabled descendant of Æneas of Troy and ancestor of the lines of British kings which culminated in Arthur; the story of what befell his descendants (including the tale of Leir, founder of Leicester, which Shakespeare took from the pages of Holinshed); the devices of Merlin and the victories of his pupil; and the final triumph of the perfidious Saxon are all pleasantly enough recounted for the benefit of the youthful reader. But we are unable to see how he will be helped by vague critical notes telling him no more than that nothing is known upon the subject; and we are somewhat doubtful as to the utility of such a statement as that the great value of the 'Chronicle' is that "it helps us to realize,

as no other book does, the beauty of those early days." The diction is generally simple and correct, but some one is made to "level a shot" with a bow, and others "chanted the babe with strong magic." "Thou proproseth" is a slip of the pen that occurs once, and "Armonican" for *Armorican* a misprint that is found several times. This is not the place to discuss the compiler's unnecessarily hazarded opinion that Geoffrey's original is non-existent; let it suffice to say that such is not by any means the accepted view.

*In Search of the Wallypugs*, by G. E. Farrow (Pearson), is the latest instalment of the author's Wallypug stories. Jack and Vera, accompanied by the Dodo with his ever-present conceit and his indispensable gloves, having helped themselves to tea, set out for the quest, obtain the wonderful green port-manteau at Muddlehead Junction, visit Fairyland and obtain the power of becoming what they wish and of transporting themselves to any place they may desire, and after a variety of adventures succeed in carrying off the object of their search from the magician, who has transformed him into Nothing. Perhaps the trial by the Lord High Arithmetician is as good as anything in this tolerably diverting book. The ingenious word-play with the letters of the alphabet we confess to having found a little wearisome. There is every now and then a reminiscence of 'Alice in Wonderland,' but, we think, no conscious imitation. Several of Mr. Alan Wright's illustrations are conspicuously happy.

The clever authors of 'The Experiences of an Irish R.M.' have produced, under the title *A Patrick's Day Hunt* (Constable), another delightful study, obviously based on personal observation, of the Irishman at home. This time it takes the shape of a picture-book, somewhat in the Caldecott manner, representing the humours of a country-side pack on a holiday, with text enough, in the form of a continuous narrative by one of the participants, to elucidate the drawings. These, it should be said, are by the "Somerville" member of the partnership, who here has scope for the gift of humorous delineation which was apparent even in the little sketches that adorned the 'R.M.' The tale is told almost as much by allusion as by direct narrative, and it takes careful reading to grasp the chain of events which finally leads the pack into William Sheehan's poultry-yard. However, no one will be the worse if he has to go through the 'Hunt' a second time. Perhaps of all the scenes the most delightful is that which depicts what occurred on the Widow Brickley's land, when

"the Shan Bui put a hump on himself like a ferret when he seen them, but if all the polis in Ireland was below minding the clothes, he'd have to change his feet and lep out on to them with the gallop he had on him, and he oot the two hind legs in the ropes, and himself and William and the clothes was thrown down in the field."

The publishers might have seen that the book was more strongly covered. As it is, the pictures come loose with a couple of readings: rather a serious matter when a large family are demanding their turn.

"A fairy tale of science and natural history" is Dr. Gordon Stables's account of his Antarctic story *In the Great White Land* (Blackie & Son). It is also stated to be "all true." With every respect we think the bears and Eskimo dogs who are transported to the South Pole by Ingomar and his adventurous mates are almost too human to be possible. But that is a generous error, and all good boys will like the story. One remark in disparagement, but a little one. Dr. Stables is so fond of proclaiming his unmitigated Scotticism that he should not spoil the rhyme in the 'March of the Cameron Men' nor the rhythm in Psalm xxiii.

*A Sporting Garland* (Sands & Co.), a long picture-book which includes hunting, shooting, and fishing scenes, is a good specimen of the light and effective work of Mr. Cecil Aldin, perhaps the best of Christmas illustrators in colours, who recalls the inimitable Caldecott. The pictures are spirited and delightfully old-fashioned.

The *Fifty-two Stories of the Brave and True for Girls* (Hutchinson & Co.) which the indefatigable Mr. A. H. Miles has brought together are meant to demonstrate that "there is room for any number of girls to show in quiet places the bravery and truth of Joan of Arc." The volume is divided into five sections, ranging from a first series headed 'In School and Out,' designed for the reading of quite young children, to a fifth made up of 'Domestic Stories,' somewhat of the type one associates with the name of Miss Wilkins. We have tried one of each description and can warrant their being of wholesome quality. It should be stated that they are by no means all of them new or by living writers, some being drawn from old files of *Harper's Young People* and the *Youth's Companion*. Thus, under 'Looking Back,' a collection of historical sketches, the reader will find contributions by N. P. Willis and the author of 'John Halifax,' as well as Mr. Prelooker's account of a Russian female soldier who distinguished herself against Napoleon's troops and was decorated by the Tsar.—Mr. Miles has also edited *Fifty-two Stories for the Little Ones* (same publishers), which resembles the previously mentioned volume in the diversity of its authorship. Miss Alice Corkran leads off a series of fireside stories with an admirably conceived study contrasting the home and stage life of a fairy called Pea Blossom; and the editor contributes to the same section a rather pretty tale of a little girl who was lost in the snow. Miss Mary Holdsworth is the chief writer of the stories that are headed 'In Wonderland and Dreamland,' which are ingenious, but sometimes, we think, smack too much of the modern pantomime. Mr. John Kendrick Bangs, the American humourist, who is responsible for 'Stories of Jimmie Boy,' generally manages to be amusing.

Mr. James Whitecomb Riley, whose *Book of Joyous Children* (Newnes) is inscribed to Joel Chandler Harris, has a decided talent for versification and, one would say, a shrewd perception of the humour of the American child. Some of the pieces in his book might not be found equally to the taste of the British boy, to whose parents they would probably also seem to savour slightly of vulgarity, an impression which the illustrations would not much help to remove. On the whole, however, we would take the responsibility of commending the little book for its storehouse of harmless fun, about which there is sometimes, too, a pleasing sense of neighbourhood to literature. In 'A Song of Singing,' for instance, Mr. Riley has his foot on the threshold of poetry. Some of the non-humorous illustrations, including the one placed opposite these verses, are distinctly pretty.

*Billows and Bergs*, by W. Charles Metcalfe (Warne & Co.), will be found satisfactory by those who enjoy a rousing sea story. The narrator is a young apprentice on a Boston vessel, which reluctantly takes on board a crew of mutineers, who, aided by treachery, obtain possession of the ship, but are run down in a storm by the vessel they have abandoned. The mutineer leader dies in a boat while in company with the hero, who is rescued and joins his old comrades at the Cape. Further adventures follow, with the usual strain on the long arm of coincidence.

"That Game of Golf," and some other *Sketches*, by an anonymous author (Simpkin & Marshall), are reprinted from *Punch*, and



deal in jokes whose perennial character somewhat detracts from their freshness, but with the aid of Mr. Tom Browne's spirited illustrations the volume will pass muster as light reading.

A cheaper edition of *Dick Darley's School Days*, which is now published by Messrs. Ellis & Keene, cannot be commended for its print, but the story has plenty of go, and has by this time some value as a document concerning East London.

In the "Bibliothèque Rose Illustrée" (Paris, Librairie Hachette) *Les Petits Poussargues*, by François Deschamps, makes a lively appearance. The children who are the protagonists go through all sorts of adventures and mishaps, which ought to amuse little folks, both French and English. As illustrations and print are both attractive the little book deserves hearty commendation.

#### SHORT STORIES.

*Youth*. By Joseph Conrad. (Blackwood & Sons.)—The art of Mr. Conrad is exquisite and very subtle. He uses the tools of his craft with the fine, thoughtful delicacy of a mediæval clockmaker. With regard to his mastery of the *conte* opinions are divided, and many critics will probably continue to hold that his short stories are not short stories at all, but rather concentrated novels. And the contention is not unreasonable. In more ways than one Mr. Conrad is something of a law unto himself, and creates his own forms, as he certainly has created his own methods. Putting aside all considerations of mere taste, one may say at once that Mr. Conrad's methods command and deserve the highest respect, if only by reason of their scholarly thoroughness. One feels that nothing is too minute, no process too laborious for this author. He considers not material rewards, but the dignity of his work, of all work. He does not count the hours of labour or the weight of weariness involved in the production of a flawless page or an adequately presented conception; but he has the true worker's eye, the true artist's pitilessness, in the detection and elimination of the redundant word, the idle thought, the insincere idiom, or even for the mark of punctuation misplaced. The busy, boastful times we live in are not rich in such sterling literary merits as these; and for that reason we may be the more thankful to an author like Mr. Conrad for the loyalty which prevents his sending a scamped page to press.

A critical writer has said that all fiction may roughly be divided into two classes: that dealing with movement and adventure, and the other dealing with characterization, the analysis of the human mind. In the present, as in every one of his previous books, Mr. Conrad has stepped outside these boundaries, and made his own class of work as he has made his own methods. All his stories have movement and incident, most of them have adventure, and the motive in all has apparently been the careful analysis, the philosophic presentation, of phases of human character. His studious and minute drawing of the action of men's minds, passions, and principles forms fascinating reading. But he has another gift of which he himself may be less conscious, by means of which his other more incisive and purely intellectual message is translated for the proper understanding of simpler minds and plainer men. That gift is the power of conveying atmosphere, and in the exercise of this talent Mr. Conrad has few equals among our living writers of fiction. He presents the atmosphere in which his characters move and act with singular fidelity, by means of watchful and careful building in which the craftsman's methods are never obtrusive, and after turning the last page of one of his books we rise saturated by the very air they breathed.

This is a great power, but, more or less, it is possessed by other talented writers of fiction. The rarity of it in Mr. Conrad lies in this, that he can surround both his characters and his readers with the distinctive atmosphere of a particular story within the limits of a few pages. This is an exceptional gift, and the more to be prized in Mr. Conrad for the reason that he shows some signs of growing over-subtlety in his analysis of moods, temperaments, and mental idiosyncrasies. It is an extreme into which all artists whose methods are delicate, minute, and searching are apt to be led. We have at least one other analyst of temperament and mood in fiction whose minute subtlety, scrupulous restraint, and allusive economy of words resemble Mr. Conrad's. And, becoming an obsession, these characteristics tend to weary the most appreciative reader. With Mr. Conrad, however, these rather dangerous intellectual refinements are illumined always by a vivid wealth of atmosphere, and translated simply by action, incident, strong light and shade, and distinctive colouring. The title of the present volume is perhaps a little misleading, but its sub-title explains: 'Youth: a Narrative, and Two other Stories.' The story which gives its name to the book is emphatically a narrative, and of a very stirring sort. It fills some forty-seven pages, and deals, in the author's own manner, with the voyage of a little coal-laden barque from England to Bangkok. Then comes 'The Heart of Darkness,' consisting of a hundred and thirty odd pages, and lastly 'The End of the Tether,' a story of nearly two hundred pages. All three appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine*, and all three are better suited for publication and perusal in book form. 'Youth' is a wonderful narrative, an epic in little of the life of those who use the sea. It might very well have been called by any other name, since the mental attitude of its hero, of youthful zest and youthful appreciation of the dramatic and adventurous in life, is incidental to the story, and the most carefully drawn character is that of an old man, the skipper. There is not a wasted word in it, and it forms a valuable record, as well as a beautiful and vivid picture. 'The Heart of Darkness' is a big and thoughtful conception, the most important part of the book, as 'The End of the Tether' is the most fascinating. The first deals with life on the Congo and the Belgian ivory-hunt; the second is the story of a fine old merchant-service captain who finds himself rapidly becoming blind, and who, for the sake of the daughter who relies upon him for support, retains command of a coasting steamer among the Malays (where keen eyesight is perhaps a skipper's most essential qualification) long after he has ceased to be capable. A more deeply moving story it would be hard to find, vivid, full of movement, even of stirring incident, yet piercingly analytic, and here and there almost too subtle in its descriptive minutiae, as where the steamer-owner's cabin is described as showing "no traces of pipe-ash even, which, in a heavy smoker, was morally revolting, like a manifestation of extreme hypocrisy." Here, we think, intensity verges upon the kind of exaggeration which may become ridiculous. But the story is masterly.

The reviewer deliberately abstains both from quotation and from any attempt at analysis of a story like 'The Heart of Darkness.' Any such attempt in a limited space would be a painful injustice where work of this character is concerned. Further, the reader is warned that this book cannot be read understandingly—as evening newspapers and railway novels are perused—with one mental eye closed and the other roving. Mr. Conrad himself spares no pains, and from his readers he demands thoughtful attention. He demands so much, and, where the intelligent are concerned, we think he will command it.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THE present time, when visitors to India have set forth in unusual numbers in order to see something of the great Darbâr with its reviews and festivities, is appropriate for the appearance of Mr. H. C. Fanshawe's *Delhi: Past and Present* (Murray). It is essentially a guide-book, and must be examined as such, though its preparation apparently began fifteen years ago. The author says:—

"I would venture to hope that the present volume will afford to visitors to Delhi not only a clear guide to all that is to be seen there, but also an intelligent record of the history of the place in all its various phases, and will help to secure a permanent place in the memories of such and of many others, for the great and gallant feat of arms performed before Delhi in the summer of 1857, by a very small force under the most arduous and trying conditions."

Mr. Fanshawe's expectation that his volume will be useful to visitors will be amply realized by those of them who consult it; and leisure hours on board ship could scarcely be better employed than in expanding the excellent information condensed in Murray's 'Hand-book,' by reference to the more detailed description. Such study would not be thrown away, for the additional interest thereby imparted to drives and excursions in that rich and marvellous field—the neighbourhood of Delhi—would compensate for much less agreeable labour. We think, however, that too much space has been allotted to matters concerning the Mutiny and the siege in 1857. Certainly the average reader of a guide-book does not care to wade through one hundred and forty-six pages on the subject, many of which have been already published and consist of reports and dispatches, with lists of officers killed and wounded; whilst the special student of Mutiny affairs cannot complain of dearth of literature on the subject. The story is no doubt one which should not be forgotten, specially by those who have to conduct our rule in India; but it should also be borne in mind that the continual fanning of the ashes of old fires may be mischievous. Reference is made to the erection of a worthy monument to John Nicholson, and in the *Times* of December 4th, a list of subscriptions was published. With regard to this it is, perhaps, not generally known that there is a monument to him in the Punjab, near Rawalpindi, in the inscription on which he is stated to have died aged thirty-four years; whereas on his gravestone in the cemetery outside the Kashmir gate of Delhi he is said to have died aged thirty-five years. Besides these memorials there is a tablet in the church at Bannu, which gives his age as thirty-four years and bears an inscription from the accomplished pen of his friend Sir Herbert Edwardes, who describes him thus:—

"Gifted in mind and body, he was as brilliant in government as in arms. The snows of Ghazni attest his youthful fortitude; the songs of the Punjab his manly deeds; the peace of this frontier his strong rule. The enemies of his country know how terrible he was in battle, and we his friends have to recall how gentle, generous, and true he was."

Nicholson was born on December 11th, 1822, and died on September 23rd, 1857, so that his age was thirty-four years and about nine and a half months; hence he had lived thirty-four and had not lived thirty-five years; but, on the other hand, the length of his life was nearer thirty-five than thirty-four years. The discrepancy is mentioned in order that in an inscription on the projected memorial his age may be correctly stated.

Mr. Fanshawe's book is accompanied by a map of the country round Delhi, a plan to illustrate the siege, and a leaflet of special information regarding the Coronation Darbâr next week. This contains a plan showing the positions occupied by the tents of the chief persons present, from the Viceroy to the representatives of the native press, as



well as hints useful to visitors. There are also maps and plans bound with the text, some of which are similar to those in Murray's 'Handbook.' The illustrations are numerous and well selected, many of them being reproduced from photographs taken by Messrs. Bourne & Shepherd several decades ago. The binding of the volume and the fixing of these illustrations are not satisfactory; in the copy before us pp. 55 to 58 are loose—that is, have never been caught by the binding—and in other places there is evidence that the capacity for standing wear and tear requisite in a guide-book is wanting.

*Dove Dale Revisited, with other Holiday Sketches*, by the Amateur Angler (Sampson Low), is a pleasant record of pleasant places. The sense of the open air and the good-fellowship give the book its charm. It does not overdo the fishing details, though the author takes a just pride in that sustained and hale activity which was a feature of Virgil's ancient mariner. The Dove, which we last visited for other purposes than fishing, is a delightful stream, even in its beginning, where no fish are to be had. Here it might be fairly called "concealed," as it is deep embedded in the green, so that we think the Angler's explanation of Walton's phrase as to its later course is correct. We can best exhibit the excellent temper of the author by noting that ten days of weather "bad for angling, bad for cycling, bad for touring," formed "a very agreeable episode in my life." With such an endowment of spirits, children and grandchildren to share his fishing, and, we may add, a series of holiday books behind him so well appreciated as to have been called for many times, he may, indeed, be called *fortunatus nimium*. He doubts if Walton had weeds to contend with, but Part I. chap. v. of 'The Compleat Angler' shows that there were some in the running water of those days, though they were not serious, like the foreign pondweed which blocked several of our rivers, starting from one botanical specimen. Illustrations of beautiful country scenes are included, and add to the attractiveness of this holiday book. But we see no reason why it should be, as announced, the last of its sort. We expect the Angler to reach at least a Waltonian age. As all good fishermen will say, "Sum cuique," the verses tentatively attributed to Mr. Smith on p. 45 should be restored to their rightful owner—once Alfred Tennyson.

THE most valuable part of *Aspects of the Jewish Question*, by a Quarterly Reviewer (Murray), is a table of statistics of Jewish population, printed as an appendix, and reproduced from the 'Jewish Year-Book,' 1902-1903. It gives some figures which will surprise those who have not studied the question closely. Few people are aware that the most crowded centre of Jewish population in the world is New York with its 360,000 Jews. London comes only sixth, after Warsaw, Budapest, Vienna, and Odessa, and is followed by Berlin, Philadelphia, and Chicago. A map at the end of the book, showing "the approximate density of the Jewish population," would be more useful if it included the Western hemisphere, as the most interesting feature of the above-mentioned table is its indication of the large agglomeration of Jews in the cities of the United States of America. Apart from the appendix it is difficult to understand why the Quarterly Reviewer should have taken the trouble to reprint, "with alterations and considerable additions," his article, which in its style justifies the title of "the heavy Reviews" sometimes accorded to the old quarterlies. The writer criticizes the Zionists, the missionaries to the Jews, and the anti-Semites without throwing any conspicuous new light on the Jewish question. That his knowledge of it is not profound is shown by his very in-

complete bibliography printed at the end of the book, in which, by the way, he recommends an English translation of Renan's 'Histoire du Peuple d'Israël.' Now, no expert on the Jewish question, whatever his point of view, would read that work except for its admirable French prose. But the Quarterly Reviewer is not in that category, as witness the following sentence: "There are twice as many Jews in England as in France, and if they are afflicting France with rods, they should be afflicting England with scorpions." This betrays a lack of knowledge of the anti-Semitic movement in France, which is almost entirely a creation of Paris, where, as the table at the end of this pamphlet shows, the percentage of Jews to the total population is 2.18, while in London, including the immigrants, it is only 1.58.

*The Deserted Village*, profusely illustrated with full-page drawings by Mr. Edwin A. Abbey, has also an introduction by Mr. Austin Dobson. What more could be desired? Nothing, we fancy, by the judicious. When we have added that the type, though a little fanciful, is luxuriously large, and disposed with ample margins everywhere, our readers will guess that this is one of the most attractive books of the season, and in every way a credit to Messrs. Harper. An excellent portrait of Mr. Abbey is the frontispiece. Are we hypercritical in thinking that Oliver Goldsmith's ugly, yet appealing visage would be more in place there?

THE sixth volume of the "Edinburgh Edition" of Lockhart's *Life of Scott* (Jack) only increases our admiration for this desirable edition, recommended both by its admirable print and excellent portraits, which include Lady Scott in the best picture of her, Scott's mother, and two of his favourite Scottish peers. We receive also in the concurrent "Edinburgh Waverley" of the same firm *The Betrothed and The Talisman*, each of which contains a striking portrait of Scott not well known to the general public.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. have sent us the second instalment of four volumes which completes their compact and elegant edition on India paper of *Browning*.

MRS. HUMPHRY is an old hand at giving advice in social matters, and her *Etiquette for Every Day* (Grant Richards), which we receive elegantly bound in leather, does not fail to give a good deal of sensible advice, though, of course, it records some fads of the day and some absurdities. We are both surprised and pleased to see a quotation from the social wisdom of that "great and gallant gentleman," Walter Scott.

*Upper Norwood Athenæum: the Record of the Winter Meetings and Summer Excursions, 1901-2.*—We again accord a welcome to the *Proceedings* of this useful society. The papers read have evidently been carefully prepared, and the places visited include Westminster School, St. Saviour's, Southwark, Horsham, Bayham Abbey, Strood, and Bexley, where one of the Dene Holes in Stankey Wood was explored. The little book is well illustrated, the proprietors of the *Illustrated London News*, and others, kindly lending their help, as well as some members and friends. The *Proceedings* are as usual edited by Mr. J. Stanley and Mr. W. F. Harradence, and we agree with their statement "that this twenty-sixth series of meetings in variety and interest has surpassed any the Society has previously held." We should like to see other such societies formed.

We have on our table *American Municipal Progress*, by C. Zueblin (Macmillan),—*The Reform of Moral and Biblical Education*, by F. H. Hayward (Sonnenschein),—*The Consecration of the State: an Essay*, by J. E. C. Well-don, D.D. (Macmillan),—*La Fontaine: Longer*

*Fables*, edited by A. H. Wall (Blackie),—*Where there's a Will*—by E. Everett-Green (Hutchinson),—*A Double Revenge*, by L. T. Meade (Digby & Long),—*Under One Flag*, by W. Beddoes (Drane),—*Reflections of Ambrosine*, by E. Glyn (Duckworth),—*The Track of the Storm*, by Dora Russell (Digby & Long),—*Compromised*, by G. Warden and H. E. Gorst (Greening),—*Grit and Go*, stories by G. A. Henty and others (Chambers),—*Salt-Water Ballads*, by J. Masfield (Grant Richards),—and *Un Demi-Siècle de Vie*, by E. Mouton (Paris, Delagrave).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

## Theology.

- Coe (G. A.), *The Religion of a Mature Mind*, cr. 8vo, 5/ net.  
Daily Lectures for Every Morning and Evening throughout the Year, ed. by Rev. J. F. W. Bullock, 6 vols. 22/6 net.  
Davison (W. T.), *Strength for the Way*, and other Sermons and Addresses, 8vo, 3/6  
Dearden (H. W.), *Words of Counsel*, cr. 8vo, 3/6  
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## Fine Art and Archaeology.

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Browning (R.), *Poetical Works*, Vols. 5 to 8, on India paper, 12mo, each 2/6 net.  
Dante: *La Divina Commedia*, edited by Dr. Moore, 3 vols. cr. 8vo, each 2/ net; Notes on, by H. F. Tozer, 3 vols. cr. 8vo, each 3/ net.  
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## FATHER CHRISTMAS IN FAMINE STREET.

## AN APPEAL FOR THE CHILDREN.

"Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not."

WHEN Father Christmas went down Famine Street

He saw two little sisters: one was trying  
To lift the other, pallid, wasted, dying  
Within an arch, beyond the slush and sleet,  
From out the glazing eyes a glimmer sweet  
Leapt, as in answer to the other's sighing,  
While came a murmur, "Don't 'ee keep on crying—

I wants to die: you'll get my share to eat."

Her knell was tolled by joy-bells of the City  
Hymning the birth of Jesus, Lord of Pity,  
Lover of children, Shepherd of Compassion.  
Said Father Christmas, while his eyes grew dim,  
"They do His bidding—if in thrifty fashion:  
They let the little children go to Him."

THEODORE WATTS-DUNTON.

## PROF. WITHERS.

In the midst of the popular clamour and strife  
raging around the schools of England we may  
crave a moment's silence in which to lament the

untimely death of a man who was an enthusiast in the cause of education. Harry Livingston Withers, who had held the Chair of Education at Owens College, Manchester, since 1899, died on December 12th, at the early age of thirty-eight. He was educated at King's College School, London, and Balliol, where he won an open classical scholarship in 1882. After getting a first class in Classical Moderations, and again in Literæ Humaniores, he went straight from college to teach in an elementary school at Oxford, in order to acquire experience in the theory and practice of the art to which he intended to devote his life.

He was principal of the Borough Road Training College at Isleworth (British and Foreign School Society) from 1893 till 1899, and no one who knew him there will forget his stimulating power, his masterly skill, his wholly beneficent rule over the youths he had to mould into teachers of the rising generation. He was inspired by the vision of lofty ideals, towards which he pressed with all the directness of a strong and simple nature. In the Chair of Education at Owens College he wielded even a wider influence, which was rapidly increasing. He gave valuable advice to the educational authorities of the nation in 1901 with regard to the improvement of the teaching of history throughout elementary schools, and his suggestions are embodied in a published memorandum. He was elected the first chairman of the Council for the Registration of Teachers recently instituted by the Board of Education. Although his special work was not that of an author, an edited Shakespearean play, an article in the *Contemporary*, contributions to the volume 'Teaching and Organization,' reviews in an educational paper, and so forth, bore witness now and again to his industry. He was rapidly becoming known throughout England as an authority whose judgment and knowledge were above dispute. Perhaps an extract from a private letter of his, dated November 30th, 1900, may be of interest to readers of the *Athenæum*—

"I fear that the poor type of novel most commonly read is, as it were, a symbol of the poor starved training in the 'humanities' which is all that the children get, whether in primary or secondary schools. There is so little *humanity*, so little *literature*, in our education! Matthew Arnold told us all so, forty years ago, but what has been done? All the popular cry is for commercial and technical education.....I hope you and all others who work for education, not in its professional aspect, with examinations in view, but in its relation to life—human life as well as individual life—will continue to fight, heart and hand, for more literature and more humanity in the schools."

For that he strove. All who knew his quiet strength, his spiritual insight and fervour, betrayed now and again in an hour of intimate communion, believed that he was destined for high and higher achievements. *Dis aliter visum*.

L. W.

## KESTELL'S 'THROUGH SHOT AND FLAME.'

WE have received from Mr. Vaughan, a "late squadron leader, Rimington's Guides, Damant's Horse, and Canadian Scouts," writing from Wales, a letter, which is too long and too strictly military for insertion, in reference to our "review of 'Shot and Flame.'" The writer suggests that our unfavourable notice, of a book which he also condemns, is misleading in the statement that there is "new matter," because, as he alleges, that matter is only new in the sense of being untrue. He then proceeds to question the Dutch chaplain's account of Tafel Kop, denying that the Boers on that occasion charged home. Mr. Vaughan suggests that the British column was deceived by the Boers wearing khaki and copying our formation, and that they were in consequence mistaken for our men. Mr. Vaughan says that in B squadron of Damant's Horse there was an argument between the men and the captain as to what the other column were, and that a cor-

poral fired and hit one "to prove his point, and the captain then dropped another to test that point." Mr. Vaughan denies that Wessels's successful attack was carried out by only 149 men, and states that it was not Wessels, but Aleck Ross, sprung from Scottish father and Dutch mother, who commanded in the actual fight. With regard to our statement that British troops of the present day do not exhibit "the military virtues of the men of the Peninsula," Mr. Vaughan writes: "There is no doubt case on case where our officers ought to have been shot in the lump for their surrenders." The main point with which we are concerned, as it bears upon the whole theory of modern war, is whether the Boers in the latter stages of the war charged home—i.e., acted as true cavalry. Of this there can be no manner of doubt. The most distinguished officers who served in South Africa on our side have themselves stated the fact in the plainest terms, and one of them has said: "If the Boers had been armed with swords they would have used swords on these occasions."

## THE GOWRIE MYSTERY.

THE logic of the reviewer of my 'James VI. and the Gowrie Mystery' baffles me when he says that my strongest argument is the timidity of the king, who, as James himself observed, would not have run such risk in so hazardous a scheme, especially as he had other cards up his sleeve, if he had meant mischief to the Ruthvens. I do not reckon this my strongest argument. Gowrie's twice-told falsehood that the king had ridden away—a falsehood attested by a cloud of witnesses—is yet stronger, and so are other points. The arguments are cumulative. But, given the argument from timidity, it cannot be disposed of by saying, as the reviewer does, "By the official narrative it is clear that James did not intend to go alone with the Master" (of Ruthven), "for he desired Lennox"—to follow him everywhere, and bade the Master bring Sir Thomas Erskine. If so, then James had obviously no plan to "precipitate a scuffle which had been prearranged," and thus destroy Ruthven and Gowrie. For, if that had been the king's intention, he could not have dreamed of bringing with him, as a witness, the Duke of Lennox, a near connexion of the Ruthvens, and, considering the age, a man of honour. If James was a coward he would not have gone unarmed and alone to arrange a prearranged brawl of which no man could predict the issue. If, on the other hand, he tried to take Lennox with him, he had no purpose of "precipitating a scuffle" into which the young Ruthven would not be likely to enter, with Lennox, armed as he was, to aid the weaponless king; and of which, again, Lennox was, I think, the man to give a truthful and damaging account. My argument is not "shattered," I conceive, by anything that I have written. Either James was a coward—and then he would not venture alone and unarmed into such peril—or (coward or not) he expected Lennox to be with him, and then he could not hope to carry out the absurd plot of which he was, and is, suspected. That James "had dined" so well, if not so wisely, as, for murderous ends, to dare to raise the brawl, weaponless and alone, is an hypothesis rather beyond my humble suggestion that perhaps he had dined well enough to follow a young gentleman, whose suit he is said to have been backing, into a set of rooms on the first floor, whether he knew that a door, or doors, were locked behind him or not. That he did not know this till later appears probable from Erskine's evidence at the trial. Moreover, James could not have prearranged that Gowrie should lie about his departure, and, if Gowrie had not done that, the king's alleged plot would have been a failure.

The dilemma of the reviewer, if he believes the king guilty, may be set in another light. James was a coward, *ex hypothesi*,



but he not merely, alone and weaponless, precipitated a scuffle, he must (on the theory of his guilt) have also locked the door, to keep out Lennox and the others. Therefore he did not expect Lennox or Erskine to accompany him. Or, if this is wrong, it was not James who locked the door or caused it to be locked; and James therefore was not the conspirator. This is the very essence of the problem.

As to the non-concealment of the king's horse (if, as is almost certain, it was not concealed), my whole theory is that the plan was to seize James arriving early with only three or four servants. On the other hand, he arrived later with a considerable retinue. Unable to give up their plot (for Ruthven's tale of the pot of gold could not be explained away), the brothers reconstructed their scheme hastily, and under observation, and the horse was left, probably, in his stall.

These considerations, with such others as the hitherto unnoted statement attributed to Mr. Robert Oliphant (unnoted, I think, by any other writer on the mystery), and Bothwell's equally unremarked inclusion of Gowrie and Restalrig among his allies (matters not alluded to by the reviewer, who doubtless, and perhaps rightly, thinks them negligible), are more important, as far as the truth about the conspiracy goes, than my slips of the pen and the errors of the press. I did take my own left for the sinister side of the shield—nothing turns on that. I did say that the figure on the spectator's left of the Gowrie shield had the "left hand on the sword-hilt." That is how I understood the design; I took it that the fingers of the left hand are on the hilt, as on the Ruthven stone of 1582. The artist may have meant a mere ornament of the hilt. My reviewer must be of that opinion. If he is right on this important point, it does not follow that Ottavio Baldi misdescribed Gowrie's Paduan *impresa*, which he was sending, in his nephew's charge, to the king. The king's narrative colligates all the facts; no other system does anything of the kind. Quotation for quotation, I may cite Hudson (October 19th, 1600):—

"That it is not generally trustid is of mallice, and preoccupassyon of mens myndys by the minesters deffidence at the first, for this people are apt to beleve the worst, and loathe to depart from that fayth."

A. LANG.

#### LIONEL JOHNSON'S POEMS.

Balling, W., December 17th, 1902.

WILL you permit me to say in reference to the volume of my dead friend's poems which I proposed to edit that his family, after examining his papers, do not consider that he has left sufficient unpublished material behind to warrant a new volume? Nor do they think there should be a selection of his poems. In these circumstances I am reluctantly compelled to accept their decision.

KATHARINE TYNAN HINKSON.

#### BERACHYAH THE FABULIST.

ALTHOUGH coming late in the debate, the following note will perhaps be found helpful in elucidating the much disputed problem of Berachyah Ha-Nagdan's residence.

The contention of Mr. Jacobs that Berachyah displayed his literary activity in England rests only on two words of the introduction of this author to his fables. He complains of the "wheel (or sphere) of the world" which turns round *beiyé ayam*, and "makes some die whilst leaving others to live." Nowhere else throughout the whole piece, which consists of over a hundred lines, occurs anything apt to be taken as an allusion to Jewish persecution in this country, and it seems inconceivable that the author, willing to touch upon one of the most important events in his nation's history, should not have dwelt at some length on it.

The gravity of the persecution in the years 1189-90 is shown in Mr. Jacobs's own book on the Jews of Angevin England, containing some fifteen documents relating thereto. Were we to admit that the author, for some reason beyond our comprehension, inserted this unique couplet as a kind of parenthesis, the meaning of the words "makes some die whilst leaving others to live" would be to us no little puzzle. Did Berachyah grumble that a certain number of his brethren and he himself had been spared in the storm?

Prof. Gollancz, who opposes Mr. Jacobs's view, says that the latter's rendering of the passage may be at fault, but adds nothing of his own to explain the difficulty away. His argument is in the main the repetition of what Prof. Steinschneider said, whom he introduces as giving to our passage an interpretation according to which Berachyah would have meant that our globe turns all round with all the islands appended to the mainland; but he forgets that the rotation of the earth was not included in the astronomical knowledge of the twelfth century, and that *Galgah* (sphere) was never used by the Hebrew writers of the time to express the portion of the universe on which we live, as it was for the heavenly bodies of the Ptolemaic system. The responsibility for this misconception does not rest with Prof. Steinschneider, who understood our passage very differently, and already noted a certain similarity between it and a Talmudical saying in which fickle chance is spoken of as the cause of sudden and freakish changes in men's position.

Dr. Neubauer, in his article of 1890 in the *Jewish Quarterly*, puts in brackets the word "fate," as explanatory of the "wheel of the world," but soon afterwards falls into Mr. Jacobs's error by accepting the allusion to the events of 1189-90. Had Dr. Neubauer pondered a little longer on the text he would have made out that Berachyah all over his introduction gave vent to one grievance, which was of a social character and had nothing to do with the external circumstances of the Jewish community. Berachyah is upset by the injustice of Fortune (*Galgah Aholam*—the wheel of the world), which bestows all her favours on the unworthy, and causes the righteous and the man of noble feeling to sink down and to be depressed. This complaint begins two couplets before the one which gave rise to the dispute, and goes on to the end of the introduction. The islands of the sea (*Iyè Ayam*) are named, but in the next couplet the wide open regions of the earth are also mentioned, and the author bewails the moral havoc wrought by Fortune on every spot where human beings breathe. His utterance is much like those of Job and the prophets, which are summed up in Jeremiah's words (xii. 1), "Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper?" with one difference, that Berachyah's outcry is directed to Fortune instead of to God.

Towards the end of the angry introduction a distinct statement of the author makes one expect to read original compositions of his, which should be a sort of satires branding the insolence prevailing in his day; but the gentle tone of the fables and their contents do not answer this expectation. Must we believe that this piece was originally written for another collection of apologies and then wrongly placed by later copyists to serve as an introduction to the fables? This is a point worth the consideration of students.

Moreover, a number of the fables are supplied with two paragraphs of moral, and the second, which is metrical, differs considerably in style from the rest of the composition. Is there anything like a duality in the authorship of the book as we know it now? L. BELLEL.

#### BRITISH BRANCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF FRANCISCAN STUDIES.

The British branch of the International Society of Franciscan Studies is collecting material, with a view to undertaking the compilation of a catalogue of Franciscan MSS. in Great Britain and Ireland. It is proposed to include in this catalogue:—

1. MSS. of works bearing on the history of St. Francis and the Franciscan movement.
2. MSS. containing the writings of Franciscan friars (the majority of which will be scholastic treatises).
3. MSS. transcribed by Franciscan friars or formerly belonging to Franciscan houses.
4. Service books.

As a general rule no MSS. of later date than the beginning of the sixteenth century will be noticed, and charters will be excluded.

The catalogue will be arranged according to libraries, will be issued in parts and subsequently indexed.

Though we have reason to hope that the skilled work will be done gratuitously by members of our branch, the cost of transcribing and printing will be considerable, and we appeal to those interested in mediæval history for subscriptions.

We also appeal to owners of private collections of mediæval MSS. to supply us with any information they are willing to give regarding their collections, and to permit us to describe in the catalogue any Franciscan MSS. in their possession. It may be safely asserted that nearly all collections of mediæval MSS. will be found to contain some Franciscan MSS.

All communications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Hon. and Rev. James Adderley, St. Mark's Vicarage, Marylebone Road, N.W.

W. E. COLLINS.

A. G. LITTLE.

W. H. FREERE.

#### SALES.

MESSRS. HODGSON included in their sale last week the following: Florio's translation of Montaigne's Essays, first edition, with the three pages of *errata*, 1603, 58l. Lamb's Last Essays of Elia, first edition, 1833, 16l. 15s. R. D. Blackmore's Poems by Melanther, presentation copy, 1857, 11l.; and Epullia, 1854, 10l. 15s. Shakspeare's Julius Cæsar, first quarto edition (1680), 9l. 10s. Dibdin's Bibliographical Decameron and Tour in France and Germany, 6 vols., 1817-21, 26l. 5s. Brunet, Manuel du Libraire, 6 vols., 8l. 7s. 6d. Holstenius, Codex Regularum Monasticarum, 6 vols., 18l. 10s. Blomefield's History of Norfolk, 11 vols., 9l. White Melville's Works, by Sir Herbert Maxwell, 24 vols., 10l. 5s.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge included in their sale on the 8th, 9th, and 10th inst. the following books and MSS.: Hardy's Novels, first editions, 39 vols., 27l. Horæ B.V.M., MS. on vellum, fifteenth century, with numerous small miniatures of saints, 60l. Heures de l'Usage de Beaufort, printed upon vellum, Paris, Vostre, c. 1502, 24l. Jesuit Relations, edited by R. G. Thwaites, 73 vols., 1893-1902, 25l. Pliny, Oxon., 1705, Dr. Johnson's copy, 15l. 5s. Horæ B.V.M., Flemish illuminated MS. on vellum, late fifteenth century, 40l. Boniface VIII., Decretales, MS. on vellum, with miniatures, Sec. XIV., 50l. Spenser's Faerie Queen, first edition (imperfect), 49l. Buck's Antiquities (imperfect), 39l. Homer, Opera, editio princeps (Vol. 1 imperfect), 1488, 187l. Keats's Poems, first edition, presentation copy to B. R. Haydon, 1817, 177l. La Fontaine, Contes et Nouvelles, with impressed plates, 1762, 81l. Lilford's British Birds, 1891-7, 56l. Collection of writings by and relating to Jean Paul Marat, &c., 65l. Milton's Paradise Regained, first edition, 1671, 35l. 10s. Book of Psalms in Metre, 1643, fine embroidered binding, 20l. 10s. Ordre of



the Hospital of Saint Bartholomew, 1552, 38l. Stephen Phillips's *Orestes*, and other Poems, first edition, 1884, 11l. 10s. Prior's Poems, 1707, 43l. 10s. Guy Mannering, first edition, original boards, uncut, 3 vols., 1815, 89l. Shakespeare, Rape of Lucrece, 1655, 110l. Rowe's Shakespeare, 1709-10, 75l. Fêtes du Mariage du Dauphin de France, 2 vols., finely bound by Padeloup, 255l. Knox's Gaelic Prayer Book, 1567, 500l. Statutes du Saint Esprit, bound for Henri III. and Louise of Lorraine, 1578, 39l. Stephen Phillips's *Eremus*, n.d., 10l. 5s. Boucher, Portraits and Subjects to illustrate the Molière of 1734, 37l. Shelley's Queen Mab, 1813, 35l. 10s.; Zastrozzi, 1810, 16l. 5s. R. L. Stevenson's Works, Edinburgh Edition, 30 vols., 35l. Sylvain, Epitomes de Cent Histoires Tragiques, Paris, 1581, 33l. 10s. Lord Tennyson's The Last Tournament, 1871, 30l. Whyte Melville's Novels, first editions, 48 vols., 28l. 10s. Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Othello, and Hamlet, first Irish editions, Dublin, 1721, 8vo, 355l. Scott's Poetical Works (eleven), first editions, original boards, uncut, 1805-30, 20l. Shakespeare traduit en Français, first French translation, 20 vols., Paris, 1776-82, 35l. Tennyson's Helen's Tower, Clandeboye, n.d., 20l. White's Selborne, first edition, uncut, 1789, 31l. Whitney's Choice of Emblems, &c., 1586, 25l. 10s. Smith's Virginia, 1624, 32l. 10s. Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, tenth edition, 1685, 60l.; Pilgrim's Progress, Second Part, second edition, 1687, 79l. Shakespeare's Poems, Kelmscott Press, on vellum, 1893, 108l.

### Literary Gossip.

THE *Cornhill Magazine* for January opens with an article on 'The Moral Influence of the Stage,' by Madame Sarah Bernhardt, an article unique in that it is understood to be the first from her pen. Henry Seton Merriman begins 'Barlasch of the Guard,' the scene of which is laid in Napoleon's Russian campaign. In the series 'Prospects in the Professions' Engineering is dealt with. Travel is represented by Mr. A. R. Colquhoun's 'In the Heart of the Forbidden Country; or, Lhasa Revealed.' 'Germs of the Waverley Novels,' by Mr. A. I. Shand, illustrates the relation between Scott's 'Border Minstrelsy' and his novels. 'Receiving Moderators' is a humorous sketch of Scotch ecclesiastical life by Ian Maclaren. The Hon. Mrs. Anstruther gently satirizes 'The Garden-Wife.' In 'Verse and Mrs. Chaplin' Lord St. Cyres offers a study of a "literary spokesman of the great inarticulate lower class," 'Merchant Morley,' by Miss C. Fell Smith, describes the rise of the eighteenth-century millionaire who was the friend of Pope and Gay and Prior. Mr. Frank Mathew contributes a sketch of Dumas père in 'Some Talk of Alexander,' and Mr. H. A. Vachell a short story called 'The Hero's Last Engagement.'

MR. FISHER UNWIN will publish next year 'Commissioner Kerr—an Individuality,' written by Mr. Pitt-Lewis, K.C., long the "deputy" for the late Commissioner's judicial work. The Commissioner himself was in Court generally regarded as a City Cadi, and was wont, in a few rugged sentences, uttered in a characteristic Scotch accent, rapidly and brusquely to hurl justice at litigants before him. Sometimes a few words of cynical common sense were added, which became widely quoted. Mr. Pitt-Lewis for over thirty-two years en-

joyed unbroken friendship with his subject, and the book indicates what the Commissioner allowed but few to learn—that in private life he was an extremely kind-hearted man, the truest and most staunch of friends, giving much time to works of charity. He was a man, too, of refined pursuits, such as the study of foreign literature and of pictures, print collecting, and antiquarian research.

SIR LESLIE STEPHEN underwent on the 12th inst. a critical, but highly successful operation, performed by Sir Frederick Treves.

THE new double section of the 'Oxford English Dictionary'—Lief to Lock—will be published on New Year's Day. It has been prepared by Mr. Henry Bradley, who points out that the portion of the English vocabulary now dealt with is remarkable for an unusual abundance of important words of Germanic (Old English and Scandinavian) etymology. Most of these words, besides having a great variety of senses and forms which require illustration, have been prolific of derivatives, some of which have a noteworthy history of their own. The published portions of the dictionary and the new section together contain 115,316 main words, as distinct from combinations, &c., and the illustrative quotations.

A MEETING of the curators of patronage of the University of Edinburgh was held on Tuesday last, when a number of names were brought forward for the vacancy in the Principalship caused by the retirement of Sir William Muir. No appointment, however, was made, and the meeting adjourned until January 20th. Prof. Sir William Turner, of the Chair of Surgery, has been mentioned in outside circles as the most likely to succeed to the position.

THE *Empire Review* for January includes a short humorous sketch by Mr. W. H. Helm, 'The Determinist,' in which the result of a little talk about free-will on a common or golf-playing solicitor of forty-five is lightly and effectively treated.

At the London Institution a Christmas course of three lectures on 'Old London,' by Canon Benham, on January 5th, 7th, and 9th, dealing with old houses, old churches, and old people, should be widely appreciated.

DR. A. C. HADDON writes:—

"In your paragraph on p. 797 concerning Herr C. Meinhof's projected linguistic expedition to German East Africa you make the following remark: 'So far as we are aware, this instrument [the phonograph] has not hitherto been utilized in foreign linguistic study.' Of recent years the phonograph has been employed by American ethnologists in recording the songs of various North American Indian tribes. Two phonographs were taken by the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits in 1898, and numerous records were obtained for linguistic purposes of several Papuan languages. The Anthropological Society of Paris has started a library of phonograph-cylinders for comparative linguistics and phonetics."

Two volumes intitled 'Some Account of a Long Life,' and bearing at the foot of the title-page the imprint of Messrs. Clowes & Sons, Stamford Street, 1866, have been lost or mislaid during the past autumn. The volumes in question are numbered IV. and V. respectively, and were bound in brown cloth when last seen by the owner. If they

should have come into the hands of any bookseller or private individual the possessor would confer a favour on the owner if he—or she—would communicate the fact or return the volumes to Mr. John Murray, 50, Albemarle Street.

THE St. Bride's Press, who are the proprietors of the *County Council Times*, the official organ of the County Councils and of various educational associations, will publish on the first day of the New Year a weekly paper to be called *Education: Primary, Secondary, and Technical*, which will deal mainly with the work of the authorities under the Education Act.

CANON FOOTMAN, who died last Saturday after a long illness, was a Broad Churchman who took Orders, at a later age than is common, under the influence of F. D. Maurice. He was the author of 'Life, its Friends and Foes,' 'Reasonable Apprehensions and Reassuring Hints,' as well as of a pleasant volume of reminiscences of his clerical experiences called 'Aspects and Retrospects.' A striking preacher, he was a thoughtful and cogent writer, while his uprightness, courage, and liberality gained him a distinguished and influential position among the Lincolnshire clergy.

PROF. TAMSON, of Göttingen University, is preparing a glossary to the works of Spenser. The book will be based upon Grosart's edition of the poet, and will appear in the course of next year.

THE Early English Text Society has sent out to its members this week the two books for its Original Series: (1) 'Three Middle-English Versions of the Rule of St. Benet, and two Rituals for the Ordination of Nuns,' edited from unique MSS. and Caxton's text by Dr. Ernst A. Kock, of Lund, Sweden; (2) 'The Laud Troy-Book,' a romance of about 1400 A.D., now first edited from the unique MS. (Laud Misc., 595) in the Bodleian Library, by Dr. J. Ernst Wülfing, of Bonn, Part I. All these texts are in the Northern dialect, and contain rare words. The nuns' rule gives curious details as to their life—how they shall always sleep belted and clad, ready to rise at a moment's notice, how the feet of all guests are to be washed, the beds of the nuns frequently ripped up by the abbess to see that no articles of private property are hidden in them, &c. The 'Troy-Book' is not taken from Homer, who, as another version says, "loudly lied" on the Greeks' behalf, but from Dares and Dictys, who were every day in the fields, saw the fights, and wrote down what they saw, so it must be true. Battles go on all through the part; its heraldry is mediæval, and Mr. Oswald Barron has helped to explain it. Some of its words are difficult, and the editor has printed a list of the most puzzling.

THE "Extra Series" volume is Part I. of the important 'Kentish Poems' of William of Shoreham, vicar of Chart-Sutton, Kent, about 1320 A.D. They deal with the Seven Sacraments, the Hours of the Cross, the Ten Commandments, the Seven Deadly Sins, the Five Joys of the Virgin Mary, the Virgin herself, the Trinity, the Creation, the existence of evil, Devils, and Adam and Eve, and are full of value for the illustration of the beliefs and language of our fourteenth-

century forefathers. The third book of the "Extra Series" published this year was to have been Part II. of Lydgate's 'Reason and Sensuality'; but as that will be delayed for a year or two its substitute will be Mr. Hardin Craig's re-edition of the only two known Coventry Corpus Christi plays, with full extracts from the Corporation records. A reissue of the fourteenth-century Myrc's 'Duties of a Parish Priest' is also ready for the Society, and an edition of Lydgate's 'Two Nightingale Poems.' Part I. of Dr. Furnivall's re-edition of Robert of Brunne's 'Handlyng Synne,' A.D. 1303, and William of Waddington's 'Manuel des Pechiez' will be issued next month.

THE last file of the Sydney papers contains a passage of unconscious humour:—

"The natives of Malieta are, it is said, bitterly opposed to the introduction of Christianity among them, and as a result frequent disputes occur, many of which were investigated by H.M.S. Sparrow.....The Sparrow visited five places in the island of Malieta, namely, Anki, Sio, Uras, Kwi, and Port Diamond. At the four first-named villages the natives were found to be hostile towards the Christian religion, and it was deemed advisable to give them a salutary lesson. Numbers of the natives were taken aboard and shown the heavy guns. They seemed to recognize the awful character of the instruments of destruction, and left profoundly impressed. As a further warning several rounds of blank shell were fired into their villages. The ordinary practice shells, which are non-explosive, were used for the purpose, and although no actual damage was done, the natives were very greatly alarmed, and fled in all directions.....Very little concerning the Christian religion is known at many places in the island, which is an extensive one, and peculiar views are held concerning the belief of the 'white man.'"

THE death is announced, at Cannes, of Mrs. Werner Laurie, wife of Thomas Laurie, educational publisher, formerly of Edinburgh. Mrs. Laurie wrote a large number of works, chiefly for the young. The sale of her 'Home and its Duties,' 'Henry's First History of England,' and the 'Kensington Readers' ran into some hundreds of thousands; and her 'Play-time with the Poets' is well known among English anthologies.

Temple Bar opens its January number with a serial by Mr. Sidney Pickering called 'The Key of Paradise,' which moves on the comparatively untroubled ground of Rome in the first years of the nineteenth century. A paper by Mr. Lewis Melville follows, commemorating the centenary of Douglas Jerrold's birth. Among the other papers and stories are the experiences of Mrs. Bogue Luffman in a 'Christmas Camp in Australia'; a Burmese tragedy by Henry Fielding, called 'Ma Mie'; 'An Open Door,' by Miss Charlotte M. Mew; and 'Fortunata,' a romance of humble life in the Italy of to-day, by Miss Katherine Wylde.

THE Bill brought into the Danish Parliament to make Denmark join the Berne Convention of Literary and Artistic Copyright has become law.

SIR JOHN LENG will preside at the Festival of the News-vendors' Benevolent and Provident Institution to be held in London in May next, and as one of the senior provincial newspaper proprietors he will specially sup-

port the effort now being made to induce news-vendors in the provinces to avail themselves of the benefits that membership of the Institution offers. The movement has already met with success in Glasgow.

FRIENDS interested in the Booksellers' Provident Institution should obtain from Mr. George Larnier the booklet just issued by that body. In addition to the portrait of Mr. Thomas Brown, who bequeathed 20,000*l.* to the Institution, it is illustrated with views of the Retreat. Booksellers' assistants will do well to read carefully the important facts and striking figures it contains.

A SOCIETY for Historical and Archaeological Research in the Canton of Vaud was constituted last week in Lausanne, and 200 members were enrolled at the first meeting. The Society proposes to hold its gatherings alternately in the chief Vaudois towns and communes during the centenary festival of the Vaud, which will occur in 1903.

THE death is reported of Prof. Ernst Lucius, the Strassburg church historian, in his fifty-first year. His published books deal almost exclusively with the mission system of Christendom from the historical standpoint. His 'Historical Presuppositions of the Triumph of Christianity within the Roman Empire' (1887) has been widely read. He was the contributor of several valued studies to the *Zeitschrift für Missionswesen und Religionswissenschaft*.

THE long-discussed monument to Émile Erckmann, the novelist, was unveiled at Lunéville on Sunday last, the French Minister of War taking the lead at the function. Erckmann died early in 1899, and a monument to his memory would long ago have been erected but for certain political and personal jealousies. The monument is, appropriately enough, the work of a native of Lorraine, M. Bussiére, and met with general approval when exhibited at the last Salon. The bust of the novelist is placed on a pedestal, at the foot of which is a whole-length figure of a young woman, emblematical of Alsace, and holding in her right hand a bunch of forget-me-not.

WE have already commented on the curious nature of the rules for the Intermediate Education Board for Ireland, each of which has to be separately printed as a Parliamentary Paper and laid before the House of Commons. One just printed for sale at the price of 3*d.* deals chiefly with the limitation of a particular work of Erckmann-Chatrian, as a preparatory subject, to certain sections only of the story.

## SCIENCE

*Among Swamps and Giants in Equatorial Africa.* By Major H. H. Austin, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E. With Maps and Illustrations. (Pearson.)

MAJOR AUSTIN has conducted two survey expeditions in equatorial Africa: the first, in 1899-1900, was in the Sobat region; in the second, 1900-1, he journeyed from Omdurman by way of Lake Rudolf to Mombasa on the East Coast. He had previously gained experience under Col. Macdonald in surveying as far as the Uganda railway, and the value of the later work may be

gauged by the excellent maps attached to this volume, in one of which the author was assisted by Major Gwynn, R.E. Of the second survey it is recorded with pardonable pride, if in obscure English, that

"the closing error proved more successful than I could possibly have hoped for—the error being less than half a mile—although the respective starting-points, Mombasa and Omdurman, were over 2,000 miles apart by the route followed."

There is little, however, of technical detail in this vivid book of travels. Major Austin appeals rather to the ordinary reader than the geographer, and his flaring headlines, 'Dogged by Giant Natives,' 'In Quest of Food,' 'On Donkey Diet,' 'Safe at Last!' and the like, are apparently addressed to the kind of man who likes his morning paper cut up into snippets with sensational "par. headings." It is probably to the same gallery that the author recites his frequent lamentations on the hardships he endured, and emphasizes his "perils and adventures," his "arduous work," "dangers and escapes," his sufferings from fever and scurvy, and general heroic behaviour, as though he were pouring the story into the attentive ear of another Desdemona. One can scarcely help contrasting this rather boastful narrative with the modest story of the late Capt. Wellby, who traversed part of the same region, endured many privations, but remained cheerful through everything, and made friends with the very people whom Major Austin denounces as treacherous savages and whom he found himself compelled to resist by force. The art of managing natives is not granted to every man, even if he belong to the corps of Royal Engineers and be entitled to put any number of letters after his name in the lavish manner affected in this volume, where everybody seems to have the C.M.G. or D.S.O., generally both, and to delight in showing his photograph. Major Austin is commendably frank in admitting his own faults, however; he mentions when he was in an "infuriated state," tells us how the "dolts" of Arabs irritated him by their "hateful carelessness and laziness," and describes how

"on that Arab, Sherif, I poured out the vials of my wrath, for I was fairly livid with rage at his carelessness [at the loss of a camel]. Generations of his ancestors back to the Flood, and all the collateral branches of his family, they all came in for my righteous abuse; whilst he personally was likened unto the son of a dog and every unclean beast that prowled this earth."

He also records how he had one of his men deliberately and officially shot for stealing food at a time of great scarcity—surely a very high-handed measure. All this seems to show that Major Austin has not a very good way of dealing with natives, and it looks as if he may have brought part of his troubles on his own head. On the other hand, one is glad to record his hearty appreciation of the Sudanese regulars who formed the backbone of his escort, and behaved in a very different manner from the Jihadiya or irregulars:—

"Here were two bodies of men of precisely the same breed, the regulars being accustomed, when with their regiments, to a far more liberal scale of rations than these ex-dervish comrades of theirs. The ex-dervish had, until the last few years, led a hand-to-mouth existence under the Khalifa rule at Omdurman, and, one would naturally have supposed, was capable of greater



endurance from the rough fare he must formerly have subsisted on. Both bodies of men were rationed on identically the same scale now, yet whereas the disciplined troops were conducting themselves like men, the undisciplined had sunk to the level of vultures. . . . We were fortunate in having Mabruk Effendi as our native officer of the [regular] escort. Although I have seldom mentioned his name, he was the grandest black man I have ever met. Time after time during the expedition I had reason to express personally to him my high appreciation of his services. He was absolutely indefatigable, always cheery and hopeful, never desponding, and by his bearing set his men a magnificent example of faith and reliance in our being able, with God's help, to extricate the column from the awful position we were in. The amount of work that he personally got out of the men was nothing less than surprising, considering their weak and debilitated state. He was just splendid, and I have a very soft corner in my heart for that fine fellow, who, though black outside, was a thoroughly white man within. Can I say more? He was ably seconded by little Bakhr, who had risen to the occasion in a manner that perhaps we had given him little credit for possessing when the real rub came. The Shawish Abdil Salam was another first-class man, as was also the other non-commissioned officer, Bakhit Ali, of the escort; whilst some half-dozen of the ultimate survivors of the escort were men such as I would be proud to be accompanied by anywhere on an expedition—sterling good fellows, and all made of the right stuff."

This high praise of the troops of the 10th Sudanese Regiment shows that Major Austin, however unsuccessful with some natives, knows how to value the right sort. The expedition undoubtedly tried the discipline and endurance of every man to the utmost. Apart from the endless fatigues of scrub, swamp, bog, torrents of rain, impassable *khors*, and every obstacle, there were the sufferings involved by shortness of water and rations. The natives are not particular as to their diet; we find them eating crocodiles and giant lizards, and speaking "highly of monkeys as toothsome food." Once the Jihadiya

"killed two huge lizards, one of which on being cut open contained fifty-three eggs as large as fowls' eggs, in addition to a large number unformed. These eggs were connected with each other on two long shreds of stringy tissue, twenty-eight on one length and twenty-five on the other; so our transport drivers revelled on eggs and lizard with their supper that night! I had previously shot my old friend Bilal a pelican, which he asked me to provide for his supper, and the bird, when he seized it, disgorged an excellent fish, which came in handy for our dinner."

When the column was in a half-famished condition, owing to the hostility of the tribes, the drivers would eat anything, and once an indescribable odour revealed the fact that these Jihadiya

"had concealed something tasty in the skin-bags slung over their shoulders, which proved to be green, rotten, elephant meat, ten days old at least. This length of time means little in England, a good deal in Africa. . . . A traction engine would have shied if that awful smell had been attached to it; but these jackals enjoyed it apparently, and were looking forward to a hearty meal on arrival in camp."

They would also, in their hunger, devour the hides of camels and donkeys. At last the whole camp was reduced for two months to living upon the transport asses:—

"The first creature we killed had never carried a load in its life, and was really not at all

unsavoury. It was tender, and had quite a venison flavour, I remember, and we all remarked at dinner that night that it was preferable to zebra. The start was therefore auspicious, and the men, too, I think, were now quite reconciled to donkey-meat. But heavens! how shall I describe our worn-out travellers of the asinine race who subsequently provided meat for us? We passed the saddle after our first fruitless effort to chew it, as none of us possessed steel teeth with saw-like edges. Part of the haunch was in future our reserved portion of the beast. We had a mincing-machine—no traveller should be without one—and after solemnly working fids of meat through this for an hour or so at a time it was ready either for stewing or to flavour with curry powder. . . . Look at it any way you like, it was not high feeding. Can my reader picture himself sitting down with a hearty appetite to tackle curried donkey and two gingerbread biscuits as his ration for a meal? . . . We never really acquired the taste for this flesh, and preferred beef when we got it at Baringo. We perhaps were fastidious; but if you had seen and watched with interest, daily, a certain donkey becoming, march by march, thinner and bonier, until he was no longer able to travel, and had therefore become fit for food, you will be perhaps able to sympathize with us in our afflictions."

Even "the housekeeper who has seldom served up a steaming dish of donkey" will not refuse this sympathy, though it cannot be denied that Major Austin labours his grim jest somewhat tediously. The worst of the donkey diet—indeed, of any excessive nitrogenous diet—was that it brought on disease. "The patients' faces became puffy," writes Dr. Garner, who accompanied the expedition from Omdurman to Mombasa as medical officer,

"so much so, indeed, as to cause almost complete obliteration of the features. . . . The speech was blurred, and the case closely resembled myxodema. They became listless, were unable to march, and incapable of performing even the lightest camp work."

Thirty-five out of the fifty-nine natives of the expedition died from this cause, and only fourteen came out of the trials of the journey alive. Major Austin himself had a narrow escape, after suffering from a most painful form of scurvy. "I am sick," he wrote,

"of the sight, taste, and smell of blood, from which I have never been free for over three weeks, as even my saliva has been turned to it, and am almost beginning to feel callous whether I peg out with this loathsome disease or not."

He certainly had seen some curious varieties in the mode of "pegging out." There was the man of the Jihadiya to whom he "applied a mustard leaf, which seemed to soothe him, but as he was expressing his satisfaction he suddenly expired." There was the crocodile which he shot as it

"lay fast asleep on the far bank with wide open jaws. The effect was astonishing, for he was killed stone dead, and never budged, except to close his jaws with a loud snap."

There was also the goose of extraordinary toughness on which the major expended three charges of shot:—

"The first shot brought him down into a pool with a broken wing, and whilst he was swimming about I gave him a charge at thirty yards' range all over his head and neck. He merely smiled, so I gave him another charge; he almost guffawed at me this time, and continued swimming about merrily, until suddenly his head sank on his breast, and he collapsed, to be retrieved in triumph."

It is a mistake, by the way, to suppose that crocodiles live on human food, and the search for the traditional bangle in its maw is usually fruitless. The vast majority of crocodiles "are almost entirely fish-eaters, and rarely attack man, of whom they entertain considerable dread," though they may carry off young sheep or kids when watering. They are wonderfully expert in catching fish,

"and perhaps there are few more uncanny creepy experiences than to hear in the silent darkness of night a fearful commotion on the surface of the river, followed by a splash of satisfaction on the part of the crocodile's tail when he has pouched his victim, swallowed it, and disappeared under the surface again."

There is much that is interesting in Major Austin's account of the various peoples he met in his arduous surveys, and most travellers will agree with him, when describing "coy, well-developed maidens, 'mid nodings on' beyond a surprised and interested smile," in his opinion that "absolute nudity is a true indication of the purity and innocence of a tribe. When these conditions prevail the morality of the women could never be questioned." In spite of a good deal of curious information, however, the book is far from learned, and one is surprised that an "R.E." should be so little scientific. As for languages, let "marmur" for *ma'mur*, and "hamdo illilah" suffice as specimens of his Arabic, and "sphynx" of his Greek.

#### ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES.

THE Society of Anthropology of Paris has just issued to its members two valuable treatises on anthropometry. The first is a memoir by M. L. Manouvrier, entitled 'A Study of Anthropometric Relations in General and of the Principal Proportions of the Body'; the second a paper by M. G. Papillault on 'Average Man in Paris and the Variations due to Sex and to Height, based upon Anthropometric Observations on 200 Deceased Persons.' M. Manouvrier's researches lead him to infer that while height is an important fact in itself, it is not so useful for purposes of ascertaining a ratio as some other measurements, such as those of the trunk and the bust, by which the development of the various members may be more accurately ascertained. He urges that observations on a small number of homogeneous cases may be more trustworthy than averages derived from a large number of indiscriminate cases, and this becomes important when the ages of the subjects are regarded. Acting on these principles, he arrives at several interesting conclusions. Dr. Papillault's treatise consists of an introduction and three parts. In the introduction he gives a general view of anthropometry, a description of its technical principles, and some practical observations on the selection of subjects for measurement, and the utilization of the materials obtained. The first part relates to the proportions of the trunk. In this he concludes that the cervical segment of the spine is less developed and the dorsal segment more developed in women and in short persons than in men and in tall persons, while the lumbar section has nearly the same proportions in all. The second part discusses the dimensions of the members, and the third the dimensions of the head. In each of these he works out relations depending on the division of the observations into groups according to sex and according to height. These are enforced by thirty-six statistical tables and several diagrams. MM. Capitan and H. Breuil have contributed to the same Society an account of the palæolithic engravings on the walls of the cave of Combe-

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velles, near Les Eyzies, in the Dordogne, which they regard as belonging with high probability to the Magdalenian epoch. These were discovered by M. Capitan in April, 1901. They comprise several horses, one of them marked on the back with a series of triangles, which may represent some kind of covering; a very hairy bovine animal, a deer, a goat, a mammoth, an animal resembling an antelope, and some more triangular objects similar to those on the horse. The same subject has been pursued by M. Émile Rivière—with regard to the rock shelter of Morsodon, in the Dordogne, and the prehistoric station of the Côte Sainte-Marie, in the Meurthe-et-Moselle, in two papers read before the Congress at Ajaccio of the French Association for the Advancement of the Sciences; and with regard to the cave of La Mouthe, in the Dordogne, in a paper read before the Academy of Sciences.

Mr. Karl Hiersemann, of Leipsic, announces the publication of a work, in two volumes quarto, by Dr. Franz Heger, of Vienna, on 'Alte Metalltrommeln aus Südost-Asien,' fully illustrated.

Man for December has a plate representing ten clay tablets obtained by Mr. A. Steffen from caves in Siamese Malaya, and now in the Oxford University Museum, with a description by Mr. Steffen and notes by Mr. Nelson Annandale. Mr. A. Hamilton furnishes a note on a small stone relic found near Southland, New Zealand, bearing on the sides figures of a male and female respectively, drawn in a very peculiar and archaic style. Mr. Risley communicates correspondence relating to the origin of the Gypsies.

## SOCIETIES.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Dec. 12.—Dr. J. W. L. Glaisher, President, in the chair.—Mr. R. T. A. Innes presented the results of measures of double stars made at the Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope, in 1902. The observations had been made with the McClean telescope, and Mr. Innes spoke of the excellence of the instrument and the convenience of the rising floor of the observatory for double-star work.—Mr. Harcourt read a note on binding together *réseaux* and plates, when the *réseau* is not impressed on the plate to be measured, and the great liability of the *réseau* shifting relatively to the plate.—Mr. Bellamy read a note on preserving negatives. Certain developed negatives which had been stored in envelopes were found after a time to have received on the film an image of the inscription that had been written outside the envelope.—A paper by Mr. Robinson, of the Radcliffe Observatory, was read, on the visual and photographic magnitude of a Orionis. It appeared that between March 9th, 1901, and October 22nd, 1902, both visual and photographic observations showed that the star had increased in brightness, followed subsequently by a slight decline.—Photographs of the spectra of Jupiter, Saturn, and other planets taken by Mr. Percival Lowell were shown on the screen.—Mr. A. B. Hinks exhibited Mr. Ritchey's drawings from the negatives of the nebula surrounding Nova Persei taken at the Yerkes Observatory. Mr. Hinks showed, by the help of diagrams, how the apparent motion could be explained on Kapteyn's hypothesis of the successive illumination of different portions of the nebula.

GEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 3.—Prof. C. Lapworth, President, in the chair.—Messrs. C. E. Adams, W. D. Barnes, A. R. V. Daviss, G. H. Dutton, K. A. K. Hallows, J. Kirsopp, Jun., J. May, E. Montag, F. Mori, W. S. Ridge, A. T. Roberts, W. A. Savage, S. M. Tweddill, and C. A. Wood were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'On some Well-Sections in Suffolk,' by Mr. W. Whitaker, and 'The Cellular Magnesian Limestone of Durham,' by Mr. G. Abbott.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 4.—Mr. W. Carruthers, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. J. Parkin, Prof. W. A. Alcock, and Mr. E. J. Lewis were admitted.—The Rev. T. V. Alkin, Mr. L. G. Corrie, Mr. A. D. Cotton, Mr. K. L. Heinig, Mr. H. M. Leake, Mr. H. H. Mann, and Mr. A. W. Oke were elected Fellows.—The Rev. John Gerard, S.J., exhibited specimens of a Polygala from Grassington, in the West Riding, collected by Mr. Lister Rothery from the locality discovered by Mr. J. Cryer in May; the plant has been named *P. amarella*, Crantz, by Prof. R. Chodat, of Geneva.

He also showed a monstrous form of *Geum rivale*, Linn., from between Long Preston and Settle, detected by Mr. Rothery; the terminal flower was apparently normal, but about one inch and a half below the calyx there appeared a whorl of about twenty petaloid members, on extremely long "claws," and surrounded by a series of leaf-like bracts.—The discussion was carried on by Messrs. B. Daydon Jackson, W. C. Worsdell, H. Groves, and A. Bennett.—Mr. R. Morton Middleton showed an extremely well-developed fasciated stem of asparagus; and remarks on it were made by Dr. D. S. Scott and Mr. W. C. Worsdell.—Dr. G. Henderson called attention to a passage in the 'Georgics' of Virgil (1. 73 *segg.*), his notice having been directed to it by Sir Annesley De Renzy, in which the poet, after recommending a system of fallowing, proposes as an alternative means of restoring the fertility of the soil that before taking a second grain crop the soil should be refertilized, by planting it with a leguminous crop. The Romans believed that these plants actually enriched the soil, especially if the roots were plentiful. It is remarkable that recent discoveries regarding the nitrification of the soil by the roots of Leguminosae should have been foreshadowed so long ago by a people who could have known nothing of chemistry or vegetable physiology.—The first paper was one by Dr. G. C. Bourne, which, in the absence of the author, was summarized by Prof. Howes. It was entitled 'Some New and Rare Corals from Funafuti,' based on material dredged off Tutanga at a depth of 200 fathoms. The one oculinid coral was *Lophohelia tenuis*, Moseley, previously obtained only at a depth of 375 fathoms; the present specimen is figured to correct the figure given in the Challenger Report. Seven turbinolid corals were obtained, two being new to science, and figured from photographs, one (a species of *Trochocyathus*) having several fossil congeners.—The Rev. J. Gerard and Prof. W. A. Alcock commented on certain points raised in the paper.—Mr. E. A. Newell Arber gave a digest, illustrated by lantern-slides, of his paper on 'The Morphology of the Flowers and Fruits of the Xylosteum Section of *Lonicera*.'—Mr. C. B. Clarke submitted a paper, 'Note on *Carex tolmiei*, Boott,' of which an abstract was read by Dr. D. H. Scott. The species was founded upon a specimen from the Columbia River, to which the author had subsequently added three other plants, and had combined their characters in a manner which has greatly puzzled North American botanists. Mr. Clarke has redescribed the original specimen, and has described two of the supposed component forms as new species.—Messrs. W. C. Worsdell and C. H. Wright followed with some remarks.—A paper by Herr C. With, of Copenhagen, which was communicated by Dr. H. J. Hansen, and briefly characterized by Prof. Howes, dealt with the Indian Phalangidae contained in the Indian Museum at Calcutta. The collection, after some preliminary work on it by Dr. H. J. Hansen and Dr. Sørensen, was put into Herr With's hands to work out, and compare with the types of Thorell's species. With regard to the distribution of forms, the author remarks that the Indian peninsula and adjacent islands seem characterized by the presence of the sub-family Gaggrellinae. Other Opiliones palatari are also known from India, namely, *Platybunus mirus*, Lom., from Sumatra, and *Pseudarthromerus spurius*, Karsch., from Ceylon; but much requires to be done in this matter before the full details of distribution can be tabulated.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Dec. 3.—Canon Fowler, President, in the chair.—Mr. P. J. Barraud, Mr. W. E. Butler, and Dr. Malcolm Cameron were elected Fellows.—Mr. H. W. Andrews exhibited a male specimen of *Theriptes luridus* caught at Chattenden in July last, and said that Col. Yerbury had taken several females of this species at Nethy Bridge, N.B., in 1900, but that there appeared to be no record of the capture of the male. He also exhibited a male *Platycheirus sticticus* and a female *Microdon devius* from Eltham and Shoreham (Kent) respectively, and three small dark examples of *Syrphus balteatus*, taken near Brockenhurst, where the form was not uncommon in October last.—Mr. M. Burr exhibited two species of Phyllium from Ceylon, sent by Mr. Green: *P. bioculatum*, Gray (= *erurifolium*, Hann., and *scythe*, Gray), which produces flanged ova, and is the commoner of the two; and *P. athanyus*, Westw., a scarce species with a less ornate ovum.—Mr. A. J. Chitty exhibited a box of insects taken between September 22nd and October 7th from a decayed fence, constructed chiefly of birch. The exhibit comprised about a hundred species, of which seventy-nine or eighty were Coleoptera. Four species of beetles mimicked the surroundings of lichen-covered bark—viz., two species of *Pogonocherus*, the scarce *Microcephalus albinus*, and the extremely rare *Tropideres nigrorostrius*—and one, *Acalles tribatus*, resembled buds. Among the others were also *Anisoxys fuscus*, Ill.,

*Orchesia minor*, *Clinocara tetramera*, Thoms., *Tetratoma ancora*, and five species of Dromius.—Mr. R. Adkin exhibited a hybrid *Selenia bilunaria* × *S. tetralunaria*, together with spring and summer examples of both species for comparison. The hybrid presented some of the markings of each of its parents, the crescentic blotch at the apex of the fore-wings and the band on the hind-wings closely following *tetralunaria*; but no trace of the dark spot usually so distinct on each of the wings of that species, especially in the summer emergence, was visible, while the "second line" of the fore-wings closely followed *bilunaria*. In colour it more nearly resembled that of the summer brood of *tetralunaria*.

METEOROLOGICAL.—Dec. 17.—Mr. W. H. Dines, President, in the chair.—M. C. A. Angot, of the Bureau Central Météorologique de France, and Prof. Willis L. Moore, of the U.S. Weather Bureau, were elected Honorary Members.—A paper by Mr. C. V. Bellamy on 'The Climate of Cyprus' was read by the Secretary. Cyprus covers an area of 3,584 square miles. It is divided by the central plains, which run east and west, and which are bounded on the north by the Kyrenia Mountains and on the south and south-west by the Troödos Mountains. These mountain ranges have a considerable influence upon the temperature of the central plains, and more especially upon the climate of the capital city, Nicosia, which has a population of about 14,000 inhabitants. The mean temperature for the year at Nicosia is 67°·2, the highest temperature being 108° and the lowest 28°. The annual rainfall is about 14 in., which falls mostly in the winter months. The author also gave particulars as to the meteorological conditions at Troödos, the sanitarium and summer resort of Cyprus, which is situated in the mountains at an altitude of more than 5,000 ft. above sea-level.—A paper by Mr. H. H. Clayton, of the Blue Hill Observatory, U.S., on 'The Eclipse Cyclone of 1900,' was also read by the Secretary. The author in a former paper discussed the meteorological observations made along the path of the total solar eclipse in the United States on May 28th, 1900, and stated that he found that a cyclone followed in the wake of the eclipse, though the changes were very minute and feeble, the fall of temperature developing a cold-air cyclone in an astonishingly short time, with all the peculiar circulation of wind and distribution of pressure which constitute such a cyclone. This theory was not readily accepted by meteorologists, and Prof. Bigelow, who has discussed all the observations received by the U.S. Weather Bureau, thinks that they scarcely confirm Mr. Clayton's conclusions. The author now examined Prof. Bigelow's discussion, and pointed out that the observations really confirmed his previous statements.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Dec. 5.—Prof. Skeat, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. H. B. Ward was elected a Member.—Prof. Skeat read a paper by Dr. J. Kjedervist, of Lund, on 'The Dialect of Pewsey, Wiltshire.' The writer had stayed in the district for three or four months; had talked and smoked with the workfolk in their public-houses, homes, and workhouses; had visited the schools of Pewsey, Oare, Great Bedwyn, Woodborough, and Upavon; had hired a good old speaker of the dialect to be with him all day; and had found his chief helper in a middle-aged workman, John Cripps, a painter and plumber, born in Pewsey, who could give his dead father's pronunciation as well as his own, and who let Dr. Kjedervist photograph his lips when making any difficult sounds. The isolated words are marked by a higher intonation at the beginning and end than in the middle; thus, in *ji-i-ø*, year, *i* is a line lower in the musical scale than *ji*, ø. In *oi ziden*, I saw it, *oi* is on the third line, *zid* on the fifth, *en* on the fourth. In *stii zii?* do you see? the *ii* rises a line from the consonant. For the basis of articulation the retracted position of the tongue is characteristic. There are eight short vowels, eleven long vowels, and fourteen diphthongs which have the stress on their first elements. Children do not sound the *i* in "football" (which is *utboo*) and other words; *r* is vocalized, "from," "great," "pretty," "pram," "apron," "secret," being *foam*, *gæt*, *pæti*, *pam*, *epæm*, and *seekæt*; "flowers" is *flæowæz*. Full descriptions of all the sounds, with many specimens of them, were given, but are too technical for a report. "High-back-wide-round," "point-side-voice," "gum-nasal-voice," "lip-stop-breath," and the like are not enlivening to the general reader. Printed copies of the paper, the first part only of Dr. Kjedervist's treatise, were distributed.—Prof. Skeat then read an abstract of a short paper by himself on 'An Anglo-Saxon Fragment found in the Binding of a Book in the Library of Queens' College, Cambridge.' He stated that this fragment consisted of a couple of strips of parchment containing scraps of Anglo-Saxon of the former half of the eleventh century. They give memoranda of gifts to Thorney Abbey,

Cambridgeshire, and mention several places in that county. We find there such words as *acruud-foe*, money for clothes; *foe-acruud*, clothes for wages; *bean-sod*, the sowing of beans. But the chief gain is the occurrence, twice over, of the gen. pl. *hogga*, of hogs, after a numeral, as the oldest quotation for *hog* in the 'N.E.D.' is dated 1340. It may be noted that Ailmer Hogg occurs, as a man's name, before 1079, in the Ramsey Charters (Record Series); also Hogenortone as a place-name, Robert of Gloucester, l. 5463; Hoggene Lane (London) in the 'Liber Custumarum', p. 236, in 31 Edw. I.; and the derivative *hogger* in 'Cursor Mundi', l. 1517.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 16.—Mr. F. W. Webb, V.P., in the chair.—The paper read was 'The Rupnarayan Bridge, Bengal-Nagpur Railway,' by Mr. S. Martin-Leake.

MATHEMATICAL.—Dec. 11.—Prof. Lamb, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. H. Grace was admitted into the Society.—The following papers were communicated:—The Abstract Group simply isomorphic with the Group of Linear Fractional Transformations in a Galois Field, and 'Generational Relations of an Abstract Simple Group of Order 4080,' by Prof. L. E. Dickson.—'On the Calculation of the Finite Equations of a Continuous Group,' 'On the Integration of Linear Differential Equations,' and 'On some Cases of Matrices with Linear Invariant Factors,' by Dr. H. F. Baker.—'The Continuation of the Power Series for  $\text{Arc sin } x$ ,' by Prof. M. J. M. Hill.—'The Functions associated with the Parabolic Cylinder in Harmonic Analysis,' by Mr. E. T. Whittaker.—'Some Applications of Fourier's Theorem,' by Mr. H. M. Macdonald.—'Series connected with the Enumeration of Partitions,' by the Rev. F. H. Jackson.—'Sets of Intervals: Part II. Overlapping Intervals,' by Mr. W. H. Young.—'The Expression of the Double Zeta and Gamma Functions in Terms of Elliptic Functions,' by Mr. G. H. Hardy.—and 'Further Results in the Theory of Perpetuants,' by Mr. J. H. Grace.—The President gave an account of his recent investigations of wave motion in two dimensions.

#### MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

TEES. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on 'The Rupnarayan Bridge, Bengal-Nagpur Railway.'  
SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—'Invention of the Wheel,' Prof. H. Shaw. (Juvenile Lecture.)

#### Science Gossip.

At the meeting of the London Mathematical Society on January 8th a presentation will be made to Mr. Robert Tucker, who has recently retired from the office of honorary secretary after thirty-five years' service. The present will include an album containing the names of the subscribers. The sum collected already exceeds 78l.

We regret to announce the death, on Saturday last, of Dr. John Young, who recently retired from the Chair of Natural History in Glasgow University, after holding office for thirty-six years. While Dr. Young's attention was directed more particularly to zoology and the allied sciences, he was a man of great versatility. He was an authority on local archaeological remains and antiquarian lore, and actively participated in the work of the British Association. An accomplished linguist, he was constantly employed in the revision of educational text-books, and many of his addresses and papers have appeared in the scientific journals.

We are also sorry to hear of the death of M. Pierre Marie Alexis Millardet, whose services in connexion with the phylloxera scourge are widely known. He was born at Montmirey (Jura), December 3rd, 1838, and for the last quarter of a century he was Professor of Botany at the Faculté des Sciences at Bordeaux. M. Millardet was elected to the Académie des Sciences on May 28th, 1888, and was the recipient of many foreign distinctions. He was the author of numerous works and papers on cryptogamic botany, &c., notably 'Les Vignes Américaines,' 'Essai sur le Mildiou,' 'La Reconstitution des Vignobles,' and 'Traitement du Mildiou et du Rot.'

M. FLAMMARION'S *Annuaire Astronomique et Météorologique* for 1903 contains the usual handy guide to observers, together with a very inter-

esting summary of the progress of astronomy in the past year. His arrangement of the small planets in order of their distance from the sun is not likely to last long in view of the continued progress of discovery.

HERR M. EBELL, of the Bureau of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, publishes in No. 3834 of that journal the results of his calculation of the orbit of Giacobini's new comet (d, 1902), by which it appears that the perihelion passage will not take place until April 19th, at the distance from the sun of 1.49 in terms of the earth's mean distance. Its distance from the sun is now 2.20, and from the earth 1.29 on that scale. The motion is very slow, and the comet is still in the north-western part of the constellation Monoceros, moving towards the north-eastern part of Orion; it has now a distinct nucleus about equal to a star of the eleventh magnitude, and the brightness next week will be about twice as great as at the time of discovery.

M. CHARLOIS, of Nice, who had already detected more than a hundred small planets, announces the discovery of a new one on the 2nd inst.

PROF. CERASKI, Director of the Moscow Observatory, announces (*Ast. Nach.* No. 3833) that Madame Ceraski, whilst examining photographs taken by M. Blajko there, has detected that a star near  $\epsilon$  Cygni (to be called var. 20, 1902, Cygni) is a variable of the Algol type. Its range of variability is small, as its normal magnitude is only about the eleventh; at a minimum this is not greater than the twelfth. The period is probably about eighteen days. With regard to var. 17, 1902, Lyrae, mentioned in our notes last week, it now appears that the variability is of long period. Mr. Stanley Williams has ascertained that a maximum (when the star was of nearly the ninth magnitude) occurred on October 6th, 1900, since which time it has been gradually decreasing, and after August 15th in the present year the magnitude must have been below twelve and a half, less than it was when first noticed in the autumn of 1899.

#### FINE ARTS

##### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HISTORY OF ART IN RECENT PERIODICALS.

WE have received various periodical publications from which it may be of interest to select for notice some of the more important articles. The *Architectural Review*, taking, as we have already mentioned, a liberal interpretation of the meaning of its title, is doing excellent work in bringing out original studies. The history of English mediæval sculpture by Mr. Prior and Mr. Gardner, the first part of which was noticed in this paper, is continued in the September and October numbers of the *Review*. The authors discuss in these articles the effect of the Norman invasion, which put an end to the accomplished figure sculpture of the late Saxons, and tended to substitute painting for sculpture. They divide the sculpture of the period into three schools, the first of which they name Norse or Viking, in which the mason imitated in stone the elaborate conventionalized monsters of Scandinavian wood-carving. The second school they call the painting school, since in its works sculpture is reduced to graven outlines and shallow groovings of the stone, in imitation of the designs which the Normans employed in their painted decoration. The third style is the architectural, which developed later into the real sculptors' art of the early Gothic school. In the main this classification is substantiated by the sculptures reproduced, though we confess to finding some difficulty in accepting the tympanum at Dinton, Bucks, as a Norse work. It seems to us to have much more affinity with Southern work, and might almost be matched in Italian carvings

of a slightly earlier period. It reminds one, too, of the slabs of the Gorgopic Virgin at Athens. We hope that these interesting studies will ultimately take the form of a book, in which case we would suggest that the authority for the dates of the various pieces of evidence ought to be given at length. We should, for instance, like to know whether the date given for the Much Wenlock panel is authoritative or whether it may not, in fact, belong to a considerably later period. Again, we should much like to know on what evidence the Winchester font is put down as English work of 1150. Here, again, we should have suspected Southern affinities.

The chief article in the November number is by Mr. Langton Douglas on Siena Cathedral. It contains a condensed statement of all the most important facts that can be ascertained about the building. Mr. Douglas attacks strongly the idea that French influence predominated in the earlier part of the structure, and, we think, makes out a good case for its essentially Italian character, in spite of certain French influences. He also takes the opportunity to correct a number of inaccuracies in Mrs. Richter's book on Siena.

The *Review* for the current month contains, besides an inquiry into the work of Italian architects at Fontainebleau by Mr. R. Blomfield, a vigorous exposure of the faults of the accepted design for the new Vauxhall Bridge, fully bearing out the criticisms which have already appeared in these columns.

A most interesting letter appeared in the *Times* literary supplement of November 21st concerning Sir Frederick Cook's picture of the 'Three Marias at the Tomb,' which we discussed in speaking of the Bruges Exhibition. The writer of the letter gives a number of reasons for thinking not only that the town seen in the background is Jerusalem, but that Hubert van Eyck must have been to Palestine and made drawings on the spot. When he suggests, however, that it was painted on the spot he is, we think, pushing his case too far. The methods employed by a Van Eyck were not those of a modern naturalistic painter and would scarcely have allowed of such a proceeding.

An interesting and curious discovery is that made by Dr. Warburg (*Bildniskunst und Florentinisches Bürgerthum*, Leipzig, Hermann Seemann Nachfolger) with regard to the portraits introduced into one of Ghirlandajo's frescoes in the Sassetti Chapel of Sta. Trinità at Florence. The fresco is at the very top of a high wall and almost escapes notice. In Dr. Warburg's reproductions it can be studied at leisure. The ostensible subject is the reception by St. Francis and his companions of the rule of their order at the hands of the Pope: the real subject is a scene of contemporary Florentine life. To the right stand Francesco Sassetti and his brother Bartolomeo, while between them is seen Lorenzo il Magnifico himself. On the opposite side are Sassetti's sons, while in between, ascending from a hidden flight of steps, come a group of three men and three boys. It is these figures that Dr. Warburg has investigated. The leader of all is Politian, the tutor to Lorenzo's sons. He keeps close to him the youngest, Giuliano, who makes here his first appearance in Florentine art as a high-spirited and careless boy—the same Giuliano who later on was to inspire Ghirlandajo's pupil with a very different theme. To these two succeed the two elder boys, Piero and Giovanni. In the latter's almost grotesquely ugly, but good-natured face one can already guess at the comfortable features of Leo X. The remaining two figures present more difficulty. Dr. Warburg considers them to be Matteo Franco and Luigi Pulci, who were both intimates of the Medicean household. About Luigi Pulci we feel a difficulty which Dr. Warburg scarcely explains. He was, at the time when the fresco was painted, about fifty years old, whereas the portrait would



suggest a man of thirty or less. Nor do we feel that the resemblance to Filippino Lippi's portrait of the poet is close enough to enable one to overlook the difficulty. Nor was Ghirlandajo the artist to play tricks with the appearance of his sitters. The heads have all the air of actual records; they are just what people mean by a speaking likeness, and Dr. Warburg is quite right in saying that the portrait of Lorenzo is the only one left to us in which the vivacity and play of the features are so rendered as to give us an idea how so ugly a man exercised so strong a personal fascination. Judged as a whole, the fresco can barely be called a work of art, for so entirely do the two motives conflict with one another that anything like a unity is out of the question. But in the individual heads, reproduced separately as they are in Dr. Warburg's book, Ghirlandajo is seen at his best, while the very want of any serious imaginative purpose, the prosaic literalness of his rendering of outward appearances, gives to such paintings an importance as historical documents which can hardly be overrated. Dr. Warburg uses these heads as the text for an interesting discussion of the personal characteristics of the men represented, and also for some interesting remarks on contemporary life. His appendix on the votive offerings in the church of the Annunziata presents a strange picture of Florentine customs. The church was, it appears, filled with life-size wax images of themselves given as votive offerings by Florentine citizens, and also by distinguished strangers. Even a Mohammedan Turkish pasha left his effigy there to ensure a safe return. The figures were coloured and dressed in exact imitation of the donors. The church became, in fact, a kind of Madame Tussaud's gallery, and the figures so numerous that they had to be suspended from above. They were finally removed in the seventeenth century, in spite of vigorous protests, on the ground that when a figure fell from its chain, as happened from time to time, it tended to disturb the worshippers.

## SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 9th inst. the following engravings. After Hoppner: Mrs. Orby Hunter, by J. Young, 63s.; The Sisters (The Frankland Children), by W. Ward, 84s.; Sophia Western (Mrs. Hoppner), by J. R. Smith, 29s.; Lady Cholmondeley and Son, by C. Turner, 157s.; Lady Louisa Manners, by the same, 131s.; The Flower-Girl (Mrs. Hoppner), by J. Dean, 28s. After Reynolds: Mrs. Carnac, by J. R. Smith, 38s.; Lady Gertrude Fitzpatrick, by the same, 60s.; Mrs. Abington, by E. Jenkins, 57s. After Lawrence: Marchioness of Exeter, by S. W. Reynolds, 25s.; Master Lambton, by S. Cousins, 199s. After L. F. Abbott: Lord Nelson, by W. Barnard, 41s. By and after J. R. Smith: A Lady-in-Waiting, 34s. After Romney: Miss Cumberland, by J. R. Smith, 71s.; Mrs. North, by the same, 116s. After Morland: Nurse and Children in the Fields, and The Kite Entangled, by Ward and Keating (a pair), 55s.

The water-colours of the late Mr. G. Boulton fetched the following prices on the 13th inst.: E. Duncan, Vessels running for Yarmouth Roads, 89s.; Birket Foster, A Village Alehouse, 504s.; Hounds in Full Cry, 483s. Sir J. Gilbert, Pointing out the Route, 78s. C. Haag, The Sheikh and his Guide, 173s.; On the Alert, 68s. H. G. Hine, The Weald of Sussex, 69s.; Folkington Hill, Sussex, 57s.; Wilmington Holt, Eastbourne, 60s.; Mount Caburn, Lewes, 58s. H. Moore, A Break in the Storm, 147s. J. W. North, Taunton, 60s.; January in Algiers, 94s.; View on the Darent, 78s. S. Palmer, The Golden City, 65s. F. Powell, Opposite the Setting Sun, 50s. F. Taylor, On the Road to Guimper, Market Day, 54s. R. T. Waite, Autumn Weather, 63s.; Now the Labourer's

Task is O'er, 94s.; Idlers, 63s. J. M. W. Turner, The Expulsion from Paradise, 120s. H. B. Willis, A Fall-out by the Way, 99s. E. W. Cooke's picture of Calais Harbour brought 120s.

The sale of engravings at Messrs. Christie's on the 16th inst. produced some noteworthy prices. The Hon. Miss Monckton, by J. Jacobé, after Reynolds, with the words "Jacobé fecit" in etched letters, fetched 945s.; and the set of thirteen Cries of London, after Wheatley, 819s. Several other prints also realized good prices. After Wheatley: Summer and Winter (a pair), 183s. After Morland: St. James's Park, and A Tea-Garden, by F. D. Soiron (a pair), 184s.; The Story of Letitia, by J. R. Smith (the set of six), 188s. After Cotes: Lady Susan O'Brien, by J. Watson, 105s. After D. Gardner: Mrs. Gwynne and Mrs. Bunbury, by W. Dickinson, 102s. After Romney: Mrs. Robinson, by J. R. Smith, 88s.; Nature (Lady Hamilton), by the same, 136s. After Opie: Almeria (Mrs. Maymott), by the same, 220s. After J. Wright: The Children of Walter Synnot, by the same, 215s. After Cosway: Mrs. Fitzherbert, by J. Condé, 96s. After Hoppner: Mrs. Arbutnot, by S. W. Reynolds, 210s. After Reynolds: Lord Burghersh, by Bartolozzi, 141s.; Duchess of Devonshire and Child, by G. Keating, 102s.; Lady Elizabeth Foster, by Bartolozzi, 126s.

## FINE-ART Gossip.

LAST Wednesday was the press day for seeing Pictures and Portraits by Nico W. Jungman at the Dowdeswell Galleries.

THE Maidstone Museum has long possessed a picture which, to quote the uncertain language of a catalogue, was "said to be painted by Morland." It is of interest to chronicle that the doubt has been set at rest. As the result of a recent commission to a well-known firm of picture restorers, after the careful removal of several coats of varnish, the signature and date, "G. Morland, 1797," in black, were revealed on the right-hand margin of the canvas. The painting is entitled 'The Shelter from the Storm,' and measures 24 in. by 20 in. It depicts a man in a blue smock, riding a white cart-horse, halting for the cover obtainable near a roadside gap and heavy overhead foliage. Hard by are a countrywoman and a boy with a spaniel. The gable of a cottage is seen at the top right-hand corner. The work formed part of the Julius Brenchley bequest of 1873, so that nearly three decades have elapsed before the comforting assurance of its authenticity has been received.

THE balance-sheet of the Salon was read to the committee of the Société des Artistes Français last week by M. Boisseau, the treasurer. The receipts amounted to 402,009 francs, of which the entrance fees were responsible for 338,059 francs; the proceeds from the sale of the official catalogue, 12,558 francs; while other artistic publications also sold well. The expenses were placed at 292,147 francs, the cost of organizing last year's Salon being 95,342 francs. The society is clearly in a prosperous condition.

JOSEF ISRAËLS, the distinguished Dutch artist, has been elected a foreign member of the Paris Académie des Beaux-Arts, in place of the late M. Antokolsky, the Russian sculptor. Israëls had been a corresponding member of the Académie since 1885. His work is well known in Paris, where he has been a constant exhibitor at the Salon for many years, and where he obtained the *grand prix* at the Universal Exhibitions of 1889 and 1900. He is one of the oldest of living artists, having been born in 1824.

A LETTER from Buenos Aires in the *Basler Nachrichten* confirms the report of the death of the gifted artist and explorer Guido Roggiani. Roggiani had only just passed his fortieth year,

and had raised great expectations by his success as a painter, when he suddenly gave up all work as an artist and joined the literary circle which surrounded Gabriele d'Annunzio as their master. After a few years he suddenly left Rome, and went to Paraguay as planter and explorer. His restless spirit carried him into the Paraguayan "hinterland," amongst whose inhabitants he expected to find the surviving remnant of the original people of Peru who had been driven out by the Incas.

AN addition has been made to the fairly long list of Antwerp painters through the researches of M. Henri Hymans. The discovery appears to have been made by M. Hymans on one of his visits to London—the exact locality is not stated—when his attention was directed to two rather remarkable pictures, "de physionomie très flamande," of rustic interiors with numerous figures. The signature, "G. Thomas," did not much help matters, but further research revealed the fact that there is an artist of the name of Gérard Thomas who has fallen into unmerited oblivion, and whose name is unrecorded in nearly all the biographical dictionaries. So far only these two pictures are known of this artist, but there are doubtless others ascribed to artists with better selling names. Gérard Thomas was the son of Pierre Thomas, "doyen de la Gilde" in 1658-9, who died when his artist son was about twelve years of age; the latter studied under Godefroy Maes (presumably the elder), and was himself "doyen de la Gilde" in 1695, and again in 1707. He died in 1720.

THE first sale of the stock of the late Madame Camille Lelong's collection of objects of art and curiosity at the Galerie Georges Petit on December 8th and two following days realized nearly 950,000 francs. There were only thirteen pictures, but of these the most important has been secured for the Louvre, the price paid being 20,200 francs. It is an example of Jean Mostaert, on panel (76 cent. by 45 cent.), with the title of 'La Donatrice,' and generally pronounced to be a work of fine quality. The subject is seated near a pillow in a large red mantle, reading a Book of Hours, which is held by both hands; the background is composed of trees and landscape. At the back of the panel, which apparently at one time formed part of a triptych, is a painting *en grisaille* of a saint. About two years ago this picture was purchased at auction for 1,800 francs. As Madame Lelong's stock has been valued at 10,000,000 francs, it is obvious that the portion now sold is only a small selection from the whole, which, by the way, is bequeathed to the Société des Artistes Musiciens founded by Baron Taylor. The next sale is fixed for April 27th.

CONCESSION has been granted to a universities and private syndicate to make scientific exploration of the site of Beni Hasan, already well known for its rock tombs and early architectural features. The University Museums of Oxford, Cambridge, and Liverpool are definitely associated with the work, which is further supported by the patrons of the fund which last season examined the Old Kingdom sites of Bêt Khallâf and Raqânah. The Director of the Society of Antiquaries is again treasurer, and the excavations are being made, as before, by Mr. John Garstang. The preliminary results point to an extensive necropolis of the early Middle Empire.

AN exhibition of Greek art will be held early next year at the Burlington Fine-Arts Rooms.

THE excavations at Miletus were begun again in October by Dr. Wiegand as director, with the assistance of the architect H. Knackfuss and Dr. W. Kolbe. A market-place of immense size has been discovered on the south of the Bouleuterion, the assembly-place of the Council. A smaller *agora* was discovered some time ago on the northern side of the same building. The



recently found market is bordered by a colonnade with double rows of marble columns, fourteen metres in width. A series of large chambers, presumably sale rooms, have been laid bare. The entire length of the newly found market-place is not yet determinable; the breadth is about 120 metres. The excavators are at present busy upon the site of the theatre.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Paderewski Orchestral Concert.  
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Herr Kreisler's Violin Recital.  
QUEEN'S HALL.—Recital by Messrs. Ysaye and Busoni and Madame Cleaver.

THE concert at the Crystal Palace last Saturday afternoon was devoted entirely to the music of M. Paderewski. As a rule, a one-composer programme is a mistake, and the one in question did not form an exception. There are characteristic melodies and clever workmanship in the A minor Concerto and in the Polish Fantasia, in both of which works the distinguished pianist appeared to the best advantage, but in both the virtuoso element predominates; the composer follows Chopin rather than Schumann lines. The programme included excerpts from M. Paderewski's opera 'Manru,' produced at Dresden in 1901. The work has been performed in New York; as yet, however, it has not been given here on the stage. The story, of Polish origin, is romantic, a quality which is reflected in the selection given at the Palace. But it lacks strength and originality; at times, indeed, the influence of Wagner is strongly felt. Then there is a sense of effort, an attempt to escape the commonplace, so that the result is far from convincing. The work, to be properly judged, ought to be heard in its proper form, yet we are inclined to think that even with stage action and scenery it would not prove really interesting. The best number was undoubtedly the love duet between Ulna and Manru from the second act, which is impassioned and worked up to an effective climax. It was well sung by Fräulein Krull and Mr. John Coates. M. Paderewski seems to us more successful as a lyrical than as a dramatic writer. It is strange to note how some great pianists hankered after stage fame—Hummel, Thalberg, and Rubinstein—yet they never really achieved it. 'Manru,' we believe, is M. Paderewski's first venture, so that it is perhaps premature to form a definite judgment. The orchestra at the Palace was under Mr. Randegger's able direction. The hall was well filled, though not crowded.

Last Friday week Herr Kreisler gave a violin recital at St. James's Hall. In the first movement of Goldmark's Concerto in A minor he displayed fine execution, but it is difficult to judge the work from one section and with only a pianoforte accompaniment. Next came Bach's Sonata in E for violin solo, played with the pianoforte accompaniment written by Schumann. For what purpose the German master made such addition to Bach we know not; anyhow, it spoils the effect of the music. To him who hath ears to hear the latent harmonies in the violin part are in themselves sufficient; the pianoforte part seems, like the drag on the wheel of a carriage, to bar the progress of the music. Herr Kreisler's rendering of his

part, however, was broad and dignified. Corelli's expressive Sarabande in B minor was finely played. This artist has a future before him.

A violin, piano, and song recital was given on Monday afternoon at the Queen's Hall by M. Ysaye, Signor Busoni, and Madame Eleanor Cleaver. The programme was interesting, but long, and in addition both instrumentalists accepted encores. If such distinguished artists thus give way to the public there seems little hope of the evil practice ever ceasing. As it was, many left the hall before the attractive César Franck Sonata for pianoforte and violin in A, which was placed last in the programme, was reached. M. Ysaye was in fine form. Signor Busoni played as solo Chopin's Sonata in B flat minor. His technique throughout was magnificent, but in the first two movements overthought seemed to interfere with the romantic glow of the music; in the last two, however, the pianist played with heart and soul. Madame Cleaver sang various songs with skill and feeling.

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

*New School of Studies for the Pianoforte.* Edited by O. Thümer. Books I.-XVI. (Augener & Co.)—These Studies range from the "most elementary up to concert standard," and the particular grade is indicated on each book. In days gone by pupils commenced with Bertini, passing through the '101,' the 'Vélocité,' Cramer, Clementi, onwards to Chopin and Liszt, and especially the earlier stages of technical development proved somewhat monotonous; to children the very name of Czerny's '101 Exercises' sounded formidable. And even the studies of Cramer and Clementi, although of interest apart from their technical aim, by reason of their number caused alarm. Schoolboys while translating and scanning Homer and Virgil pay little heed to the grandeur and beauty of the poems, neither do pupils discover anything in many studies of real musical value beyond wearisomeness to the fingers. The editor of this 'New School' has not only made a selection from the "fulness of available excellent material," and thus avoided the old monotony, but has also selected those studies "which are really valuable, both from a technical as well as a musical point of view." Variety pleases, and by means of it a pupil's knowledge is increased; this in the later stages is of importance, for the studies of Chopin, Henselt, and Liszt, and even some by Clementi, become, when mastered, tone-poems; having served a useful purpose, they offer high artistic enjoyment. The editor's aim is excellent, and his 'School' will give satisfaction to pupils and teachers. In the matter of fingering, the principles laid down by Hans von Bülow have been followed. There are careful phrase-marks and various useful foot-notes.

*The Opera: a Sketch of the Development of Opera.* By R. A. Streetfield. New Edition, Revised and Enlarged. (Nimmo.)—The importance of the libretto of operas is now recognized. Gluck, and after him Wagner, called attention to the matter, each, of course, in connexion with his own works. It was Wagner, we believe, who said that it did not much matter whether the libretti of Italian operas were understood or not. But in so saying he was wrong; the weakest of such works gains by a knowledge of what emotions the composer was trying to express in his music, and what situations he was trying to illustrate. Our author not only traces the development of opera from the days of Peri and Monteverde down to Goring Thomas, Mackenzie, Stanford, and Cowen, but also gives an outline of the various stories. "Unfortunately,"

says Mr. Fuller Maitland, who contributes an introduction, "those who take an intelligent interest in opera do not even now form a working majority of the operatic audience in any country." But the number is gradually increasing; of this the present enlarged edition of this useful work published a few years ago is, at any rate, one proof.

### Musical Gossip.

MR. PERCY SUCH, a young 'cellist who continues to make good progress in his art, gave a recital at St. James's Hall last Monday evening. He draws a fairly full, round tone from his instrument, and his technique has been well developed. The tests imposed by Valentini's Sonata, arranged by the late Signor Piatti, the first movement from Davidoff's Concerto in A minor—which carries reminiscences of Mendelssohn—and a melodious Adagio by Bargiel were answered in a satisfactory manner, the artist's playing being neat and clear, and, where necessary, expressive. He also took part with Mr. Leonard Borwick in performances of Bach's Sonata in G minor for pianoforte and violoncello and Beethoven's Sonata in C, Op. 102, No. 1, skill and discretion being exhibited by both artists. Miss Jessie King contributed songs by Robert Schumann, Brahms, and Tchaikovsky.

DR. JOSEPH PARRY'S new opera, 'Maid of Cefn Ydfa,' was produced on Monday evening at the Grand Theatre, Cardiff, by the Moody-Manners Company, which made its first appearance in Wales. The principal parts were taken by Madame Fanny Moody, Mr. Charles Manners, and Mr. Joseph O'Mara. The opera, from accounts received, was most successful. The libretto is from the pen of Mr. Joseph Bennett. The well-known Welsh air 'Watching the Wheat' ('Y Gwenith Gwyn') is introduced into the work.

THE Westminster Orchestral Society gave the first concert of their eighteenth season at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Wednesday evening. Mr. Clarence Lucas conducted for Mr. Stewart Macpherson, who has not sufficiently recovered from his recent illness to resume his duties. The programme included Raff's seldom heard Symphony in G minor, an interesting work, though somewhat out of date. The performance was fairly good. Mr. Ludwig Schalk, the vocalist, and Herr Theodor Werner, the violinist, won, and deservedly, much favour.

AT a recent concert (December 3rd) given by the Newcastle and Gateshead Choral Union Dr. Elgar's 'Caractacus' was performed under the direction of the trainer and chorus-master, Mr. J. M. Preston. It is almost the invariable custom outside London for the local man who has prepared the choir to be displaced at the concert in favour of a composer or some conductor with a big name. Mr. Preston secured an excellent rendering of the music. The fact is worth mentioning as a local experiment in the right direction.

CARL GOLDMARK'S new opera, 'Götz von Berlichingen,' was successfully produced at the Royal Buda-pesth Opera on Wednesday evening. The composer, who was present, was called many times before the curtain. The first music (incidental), by the way, connected with Goethe's play appears to have been written by Haydn about 1784.

'LA CARMÉLITE,' music by M. Reynalde Hahn, libretto by M. Catulle Mendès, was produced at the Opéra Comique, Paris, on Tuesday, December 16th, Madame Calvé impersonating Louise de la Vallière, the heroine of the piece.

FOR the second (December 10th) of the series of four historical concerts now being given at the Edinburgh University Prof. Niecks drew up a most interesting programme, illustrating British-Irish harpsichord and pianoforte music from the sixteenth to the present century, with Miss

Fanny Davies as able interpreter. The professor considers that "if British composers have neglected the clavier, the British public have still more neglected their composers for the clavier."

The eighteenth annual conference of the Incorporated Society of Musicians will be held at Dublin from December 29th to January 3rd, 1903. On the first day there will be a reception at the Shelburne Hotel, and on the next day the opening meeting will be held at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor presiding. An address will be delivered by the chairman, Prof. Prout, on 'Chromatic Harmony.' On the following days addresses on various practical subjects will be delivered by Prof. Mahaffy, Dr. J. C. Culwick, Dr. A. Madeley Richardson, and Mr. Duncan Hume. There will also be an "At Home" at the Mansion House on the Tuesday evening, a choral and orchestral concert in the Grand Hall of the University on the Wednesday evening, while the conference will close with a conversazione.

MR. J. Y. W. MACALISTER, the honorary secretary of the William Nicholl memorial fund, informs us that the concert on November 25th at St. James's Hall realized, after expenses were paid, 500*l.* There are still to be sold pictures by Alma Tadema, Alfred East, Phil May, and Sir James Linton, also sculptures by Bruce Joy and Lucchesi, so that there seems every prospect of a fair sum for the widow and children.

'DORIAN AND PHRYGIAN RECONSIDERED, from a Non-Harmonic Point of View,' is the title of a serious but interesting pamphlet by Mr. A. J. Hipkins, who will be happy to forward a copy to any one applying to him at his residence, 100, Warwick Gardens, Kensington.

NOVEMBER 22nd was the second anniversary of the death of Sir Arthur Sullivan, and a bas-relief designed by Mr. Goscombe John, A.R.A., was placed in St. Paul's Cathedral. The same artist is preparing a bust of the composer, which is to be erected on the Thames Embankment, facing towards the Savoy Theatre, in which Sullivan's genius had fullest play.

LAST week we referred to the recently published letters of Berlioz to the Princess Caroline Sayn-Wittgenstein. In connexion with a performance of 'La Damnation de Faust' at a Lamoureux concert, and the manner in which (by the aid, for the most part, of music alone) Berlioz brought out the salient points of the drama, *Le Ménestrel* of December 14th quotes a remarkable passage from one of those letters, which we venture to translate. The composer is speaking of 'Les Troyens,' at which he was working (1856):—

"My musical task will be a hard one; if all the Virgilian deities come not to my aid, I am lost. The immense difficulty is to find the musical *form*, that form without which music does not exist, or merely becomes the humble slave of the word. That is Wagner's crime; he wishes to dethrone it, to reduce it to *expressive accents*, by exaggerating the system of Gluck, who, fortunately, *did not succeed* in following his impious theory. I am in favour of music which you yourself style *free*. Yes, free, and proud, and supreme, and conquering; I wish it to lay hold of everything, to assimilate itself to everything, so that there be for her neither Alps nor Pyrenees; but for her conquests she must fight in person and not through her lieutenants.....To find the means of being *expressive*, *true* without ceasing to be a musician, and to give to music new powers of action, that is the problem."

Liszt must have seen that letter, and may perhaps have written to Wagner about it.

The same paper quotes in another column a passage from a letter written by Gossec (in his eighty-second year—he lived to the age of ninety-five) to his pupil Panzeron. He is criticizing a mass composed by the latter. After praising its good points, he goes on to say:—

"Remember that in all the arts, especially in music, clearness and truth are the finest ornaments of a work. Pergolesi, Sacchini, Jommelli, Piccini, Paisiello, Zingarelli, Guglielmi, Cimarosa, David Perez, Haydn, Gluck, Grétry, &c.—these are the

models to follow, some for clearness, others for expression, character, and truth. *Never take into your head to imitate those who are incessantly modulating, those ear tormentors, those who stuff their music with sharps and flats, and useless notes.*"

Gossec is out of date, and so are most, some might say all, the models whom he names. But *Le Ménestrel* thinks that some young musicians of the present day might pay heed to the advice, though nearly a century old, given by the veteran composer.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.  
SUN. Sunday Society Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall.  
— Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall.  
MON. Yvette Guilbert's Matinée, 3.30, Bechstein Hall.

## DRAMA

### THE WEEK.

COMEDY.—Afternoon Representation: 'The Mouse,' a Play in Three Acts. Translated from 'La Souris' of Edouard Pailleron by J. T. Grein and Henry Hooton.  
LYRIC.—Othello.

MR. GREIN, who has been responsible for bringing before the London playgoer two masterpieces of M. Pailleron, 'Le Monde où l'on s'ennuie' and 'La Souris,' may be recommended to suspend his self-imposed and honourable labour until he can secure more competent exponents. First produced at the Comédie Française on November 18th, 1887, 'La Souris' had for interpreters the best talent of that eminent institution. We have before us the cast with which it was given, consisting of Max de Simiers, M. Worms; Marthe de Moissand, Mlle. Reichenberg; Hermine de Sagancey, Madame E. Broisat; Pepa Raimbault, Madame J. Samary; Clotilde Woiska, Mlle. Bartet; and Madame Céline Montaland. We will not pillory the English actresses by opposing them to such an array of talent. One or two of them were good, but the performance as a whole was void of that distinction which in a piece of this class is essential. The rendering of 'La Souris' by Messrs. Grein and Hooton is workmanlike and in the main adequate. What, however, is the good of giving an exact translation of M. Pailleron's dialogue, witty or tender, to actresses who cannot make the voice travel across a few rows of stalls? It is not maintained that we have no actresses in London capable of giving point and distinction to M. Pailleron's dialogue or conveying an idea of the mingled refinement and tenderness with which his piece is charged. But actresses so qualified are, as a rule, already engaged, and not to be secured for a scratch occasion at an afternoon entertainment. While owing Mr. Grein thanks accordingly for praiseworthy efforts, we would urge him to prosecute them no further. We could, had we *carte blanche*, cast 'The Mouse' so that it would be a success, but we cannot regard with favour an interpretation such as has been given.

Great interest was inspired by Mr. Forbes Robertson's performance of Othello, and the world which flocked to see it at the Lyric attests in what estimation the actor is held, and how content is the public to see him in a piece which is selected as fitting himself, and not, as has been generally the case, some one else with whom he is bound, for one reason or another, to act and to whom he gladly subordinates himself. In Shakespeare Mr. Forbes Robertson has a following of which any actor might be proud. The admiration and regard of these are built upon recollection of many parts in which his

graceful presence, his fine voice, and his perfect delivery have been employed with magical results. Something like impatience had indeed been inspired by his long delay in producing a Shakespeare play. It is thus in answer to a requirement that he has at last added 'Othello' to his London repertory. In the country it has more than once been seen. So far as regards public reception the performance was a triumph. The worshippers hung upon his lips, and after each great situation the actor was loudly and frequently summoned. This was to have been anticipated, and the plaudits were merited. After a beautiful Hamlet Mr. Forbes Robertson has given us a beautiful Othello. Each in its way is matchless. Othello, with his latest exponent, is noble, worthy, dignified, imperial. He is passionate also; his bursts of affection are supremely tender, the full amount of agony is extorted by his torments, and his explosions of indignation and wrath are electrical. How far, then, is this the Othello of Shakespeare? To this there is but one answer, in the shape of another question: How far does Shakespeare intend Othello to be heroic, otherwise than in nature, and how far endowed with the virtues usually supposed to be lacking from his race? Othello is an Oriental, or, geographically, a Southern. That he is not a representative Mauritanian is to be supposed, since he has quitted his own clime and race, and accepted service with men supposed to be the chief enemies of those to whom by birth he belongs. He is a commander of Christians and assumably a Christian himself. Has he, then, ceased to regard women from an Oriental standpoint? Signor Salvini taught us otherwise, whatever the lesson may be worth. With Signor Salvini passion for Desdemona was almost wholly sensual and animal. A description of its manifestations was scarcely to be given. Mr. Forbes Robertson's love is adoration. It is a rapture such as finds occasional utterance in Catholic worship. No trace of earthliness or sensuality is to be found. The highest expression is that of rapturous and emotional content. How far is that to be accepted as Shakespeare? The question is not answered so easily as may be assumed. In no case of an English actor, not even in that of G. V. Brooke, has animal passion been strongly assertive. Concerning Garrick's Othello we know little. Hazlitt tells us that that of Edmund Kean lacked imagination and was fierce. Macready's—we regret to say it—struck us as abject. No subsequent Othello, except Salvini's, can be regarded as voluptuous. The matter may as well be argued independently of the stage as with regard to it. Mr. Forbes Robertson gives us a pathetic, dignified, and loving Othello. The mounting and the general performance are worthy of all praise. Miss Gertrude Elliott's Desdemona has gentleness, tenderness, and beauty. Miss Lena Ashwell's Emilia has a touch of tragic intensity, and is best in the strongest scenes. As Iago, Mr. Herbert Waring does not quite conquer a sense of modernity. The parts generally are well played, and the performance as a whole is one of the best to be recalled.



## THE WESTMINSTER PLAY.

THE ceremonial of the Coronation reminded us of the privilege of acclamation traditionally enjoyed by the loyal scholars of Westminster; and the renewal of the Westminster play after an interval of three years reminds us of that other tradition which silences this loyal stage in deference to royal deaths. In the interval there has been a change not of sovereigns only, but also of deans and masters at Westminster; and Dr. Gow made his *début*, in one sense, last week, when he came as a "conquering hero," to the customary strains of Handel, before an audience which included among many Old Westminsters one who had played Geta in 1839.

The 'Phormio' of Terence, a Latin version of the 'Epidikazomenos' of Apollodorus, contains the stock characters of Athenian new comedy—two old men, selfish and irascible; two young men, fond and foolish; and two middlemen, slave and parasite: the change of title does but emphasize the principal subject, the plausibility of Phormio. The Westminster traditions of deliberate declamation make the play delightfully easy to follow, but they tend somewhat to cramp the players; and, grateful as we were that we could hear each word, we could have wished for less monotony in expression, in gesture, and in stage-pictures. It is not good to see actors standing in front of one another, nor to hear "hem" spoken as if it were a sentence and not an exclamation: in the dresses also, though the general effect was bright and pleasing, the adoption of the same colour for the upper garment and for the stencilled border of the lower seemed needlessly monotonous.

Upon the slave and the parasite rest the chief burdens of the play. As Geta F. W. Hubbard worked hard, and infused a good deal of life into his own and other parts. As Phormio G. T. Boag, though always pleasing in voice and often in action, gave us far too little of the parasite's vigorous versatility, and played rather as master of the ceremonies than as minister of the plot; he was at his best in the mock announcement of the obsequies of Chremes. H. B. Philby (Demipho) and F. H. Nicols (Chremes) scarcely did justice to the characters of the disappointed old miser and the disconcerted old bigamist. The former lacked excitement in the funny scene with his three advisers, the latter embarrassment while Phormio was informing Nausistrata of the Lemnian liaison. In this same scene S. D. Charles was distinctly good as Nausistrata, upbraiding Chremes in high-pitched tones of injured innocence, and "cornering" him, literally and metaphorically. The part of young Antipho was played by G. Cooper-Willis with a natural grace of speech and attitude; his lameness we suffered gladly, but not the excessively modern stick on which he leaned.

The epilogue was, as usual, a clever medley of elegiac allusions. English education is summed up in the line *parturivnt montes, et nascitur ignoramus*; the academic abodes of our *lanigeri stulti* excite the disapproval (*serpentes*!) of a *Bostoniana parens*, whose confident views on the Shakespeare question (*littera crypta manet*) provoke the retort, in an adaptation of Calverley's famous line, *famosa o mulier, nimium ne crede Baconi*! Three Boer generals come a-begging, and a well-known minister speaks like Humpty-Dumpty from the fence (*defensor*), torn asunder by alternatives (*illuc me imperium, huc Anglia parva vocat*) until he falls. Last of all, the newly formed cadet corps of the school, whose courage can never agree with its title (*cadet cor*), sends on a section to affirm its loyalty, in Latin toned to Gilbert and tuned to Sullivan.

## Dramatic Gossip.

TUESDAY night witnessed, at the Great Queen Street Theatre, the first performance in England of 'Das Grosse Licht,' a four-act drama of Herr Felix Philippi, originally given at the Schauspielhaus, Berlin, on November 30th last year. It is an uncomfortable study of artistic jealousy developing into madness and suicide, and has been received in Germany with much favour. Miss Margaret Halstan played Charlotte Eggers, the heroine.

'A BID FOR FORTUNE,' a four-act play by Mr. Barry Williams, already seen in one or two country towns, was given at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, on the 8th inst., with a view to being taken regularly on tour.

MR. LAURENCE HOUSMAN'S 'Bethlehem,' produced privately in the great hall of the London University on Wednesday, is in two acts. The printed version will attract more attention than did the performance. Private representations of unlicensed pieces are not to be generally encouraged, though as a protest against the ineptitudes of the censorship they may be tolerated. After all, laws are made to be observed, and an organized defiance or evasion of them is not to be commended.

THE fashion of leaving the stage ghost to the imagination of the spectator, whether on or off the stage, is growing. In his presentation at the Herald Square Theatre, New York, of 'Julius Caesar,' Mr. Richard Mansfield banishes the ghost from the tent scene. If argument as to the shape in which disembodied spirits present themselves to mortal view were in question the banishment might be defensible. A loss to picturesqueness and impressiveness would attend their exclusion. However the ghosts of Banquo and Julius Caesar may be treated, those in 'Richard III.' cannot easily be dismissed, and 'Hamlet' without the spectre of the murdered king is not conceivable.

MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE now takes, in 'If I were King' at the St. James's, the part of Katherine de Vaucelles, originally played by Miss Julie Opp.

MR. HALL CAINE is writing a new drama for Mr. Nat Goodwin, which will presumably contain also a part for Miss Maxine Elliott.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL has purchased the acting rights of Mr. W. L. Courtney's dream play of 'Undine.'

M. MAURICE MAETERLINCK has finished two dramas, which, it is anticipated, will be produced during the summer season in Paris. One, entitled 'Pity,' is a play of modern life; the second is a fairy story.

AN adaptation of 'Alt-Heidelberg' by Mr. Aubrey Boucicault is to be given in New York during the present week, with the adapter as the hero.

THE Stage Society is still in existence and will before long produce Ibsen's 'When We Dead Awaken.' A new drama by Mr. Somerset Maugham will also be given.

BESIDES Westminster, other schools have kept up a good standard of Latin plays. Among these is Bath College, which this year gave the 'Aulularia' on December 13th and 15th, and has performed a play of Plautus or Terence from 1880 onwards every year without a break. Less, indeed, could not be expected from a school which Mr. Dunn made a nursery of good scholars, and which consequently has excellent traditions.

Erratum.—P. 802, col. 2, ll. 25 and 28, for "Last" read *Nast*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. F.—L. B.—L. C. S.—C. F. G. M.—L. J. B.—received.

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